3 Days to go
amazon prime day
4 - 6 July

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUDES 6 PAGES OF BANGALORE TIMES

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

3 Days to go
amazon prime day
4 - 6 July

Tarique Rahman-led BNP govt says action will be taken against **Bangladeshi media outlets if they broadcast former PM Sheikh Hasina's statements** even as opposition announces programmes to mark '2024 July Uprising' that led to her ouster and she fleeing to India

FLIPPED IT by THE TIMES OF INDIA

A 60-SECOND DAILY WORD CHALLENGE. Crack the word, build your streak, share your score. Top scorers get featured in **TOI**

Highlighting SC's role in protecting citizens' rights during a talk in Sweden, **CJI Surya Kant cites Najeeb case verdict**, in which it held that **prolonged incarceration & delay in trial can be grounds for bail.** Najeeb had been in custody for 4 years in a UAPA case without trial

Post-GST reset, 8% rise in avg tax collection

Six months after reset of GST rates on nearly 400 items, higher consumption has helped raise monthly average tax collection to Rs 1.1 lakh crore from Rs 1.01 lakh crore earlier, despite average tax rate falling from 14.4% to 12.8%. Average monthly taxable supply is seen to be over 22% higher. Meanwhile, govt has extended the due date for filing of appeals before the Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal beyond the earlier deadline of June 30 **P 21**

Boy dies as tree falls on schoolvan

An 11-year-old boy was killed and four other children were injured after a roadside peepul tree was uprooted and crashed onto a school van in Mumbai's Chembur Tuesday. The children were returning from school when the 70-yr-old tree fell. **P 12**

VTU results out 5 minutes after exam

VTU set a new benchmark by surpassing its own record for result declaration. It announced results of 6th-semester engineering examination five minutes after the exam concluded. The exam ended at 5.30pm Tuesday, results were out at 5.35 pm. **P 4**

TOI focuses on Dinnur Main Road, RT Nagar, today in its series on walkable footpaths. It's a bustling area where pedestrians, left with no footpaths, are forced to share narrow roads with heavy traffic | **P 2**

Walk-o-meter

US SC nixes Trump's bid to end birthright citizenship

6-3 Ruling By Chief Justice, 3 Liberals & 2 Conservatives

Chidanand Rajghatta | | TNN

Washington: US Supreme Court on Tuesday dealt President **Donald Trump** one of the most consequential legal defeats of his second term, striking down his executive order seeking to deny citizenship to children born to parents who are in US unlawfully or temporarily.

In a 6-3 opinion, the court ruled that the US Constitution guarantees birthright citizenship to nearly everyone born on American soil.

2ND JUDICIAL JOLT

- **Justice Brett Kavanaugh's ruling reaffirms over a century of constitutional precedent dating to SC's landmark 1898 decision** in US vs Wong Kim Ark, which has long been understood to interpret Citizenship Clause of 14th Amendment as extending automatic citizenship to almost all children born in the US
- Ruling another judicial jolt for Trump after court earlier **invalidated key elements of his global tariff policy**

Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the majority opinion, joined by four women on the bench, Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Ketanji Brown Jackson and Amy Coney Barrett, concluding that children born in the US to parents who are present unlawfully or temporarily are nevertheless "born in the United States" and "subject to the jurisdiction thereof". Under 14th Amendment, he wrote, they are citizens at birth.

▶ **'Win for immigrants', P 16**

Prez slams 'bad' order, urges Congress to act

US President Trump on Tuesday condemned the SC ruling, calling on Congress to help enact one of his signature anti-immigration plans. Trump wrote on Truth Social that the ruling was "too bad for our Country, but we can easily make it up in Congress through Legislation, with support of the President, that has been determined during this process." **P 16**

NCLAT hands full PF, gratuity dues to Jet staff

In a relief for hundreds of Jet Airways employees, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal on Tuesday held that workmen are entitled to receive full provident fund and gratuity dues even if their employer hadn't maintained separate provident fund and gratuity accounts. The tribunal dismissed appeals filed by the State Bank of India (SBI) and other financial creditors. **P 19**

Congress moves privilege notice against Rajnath

Congress MP KC Venugopal Tuesday moved a notice for breach of privilege against defence minister Rajnath Singh, accusing him of misleading Parliament by telling LS that no Indian soldier was killed during Operation Sindoor while last week, the govt said six soldiers died. Though moved by Congress, the notice appears to have the concurrence of other opposition parties. TNN

Accused in Ayodhya theft quizzed in jail

Ayodhya cops on Tuesday quizzed Avinash Shukla, arrested in the temple donation theft case, in jail after getting court approval as he and the other 7 accused are in judicial custody. Police are probing evidence suggesting Shukla routinely positioned himself in front of CCTV cameras while donations were being counted, and if it was a deliberate ploy. TNN

Skip SIR, lose guarantees, CM warns as drive begins in K'taka

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chief minister DK Shivakumar and wife Usha fill enumeration forms at their residence in Bengaluru on Tuesday — Day 1 of SIR drive

Bengaluru: Chief minister DK Shivakumar Tuesday warned Karnataka residents that those who fail to participate in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls risk losing access to state welfare benefits, including the state govt's five flagship guarantee schemes, effectively linking voting rights to welfare benefits.

"Right to vote is the right to live," the CM said. "In West Bengal, an order has been issued to verify and delete all ineligible ration beneficiaries based on SIR. Similar measures are being taken by other states. If you lose the right to vote, you'll lose govt benefits."

The statewide SIR drive runs until July 29. Launching it from his residence by submitting the enumeration form, along with his wife Usha, the CM urged voters to ensure their mobile numbers are updated for OTP verification. "Your mobile number is important for this process. If you don't have your old number, share your new number with the officials. They will send an OTP to that number. You can make corrections to your name and address, and also update your photo," he explained.

Ahead of the SIR, state govt Monday issued comprehensive guidelines for the issuance of Permanent Residence Certificates (PRCs).

"The PRC shall constitute proof of permanent residence in the state of Karnataka," a govt order said. Under the guidelines, a PRC may be issued if the competent authority is satisfied, after enquiry and verification, that the applicant is a genuine and permanent resident of Karnataka.

▶ **BLOs can snap pics, P 5**

J'khand man gets teacher appt day before retirement

A Jamtara man who served as a para teacher since 2006 received his appointment as an assistant teacher in a govt school on Monday, just a day before reaching retirement age.

Nandlal Ravani isn't a one-off case. Para teachers are eligible for age relaxation up to 58 years. As recruitment drags on for years — in this case a nearly a decade — candidates nearing retirement end up securing appointments very late.

"I don't know how to react. I waited my entire life for a permanent job, only to get it a day before retirement," Ravani said. **P 19**

Free navigation in Hormuz essential: Modi to Iran prez

New Delhi: Iranian President **Masoud Pezeshkian** briefed **PM Modi** about the recent developments in West Asia and the way forward in a phone call, said the Indian govt. On X, Modi said he reiterated the importance of freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz for India and the world, and called for lasting peace.

According to an Indian readout, Modi welcomed the understanding reached between the US and Iran and reiterated India's consistent position that all issues must be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy. "PM reiterated the need for continued efforts to ensure lasting peace and stability in the region, and for safeguarding freedom of navigation and commerce," said the readout.

"Welcomed the progress made in the negotiations and expressed hope that continued efforts will lead to lasting peace in the region. Reiterated the importance of freedom of navigation in the Hormuz Strait for India and the World," Modi said on X. TNN

▶ **Skips funeral, P 19**

KBG asks tough questions on rising strays, vanishing trees

Hamsaveni.N@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: On dogs and planting of saplings — among the two big civic issues — Bengaluru development minister **Krishna Byre Gowda** played the contrarian and asked tough questions to GBA officials at a review meeting here Tuesday.

▶ **FULL COVERAGE: PAGE 4**

Why has the stray dog population not come down despite spending Rs 100 crore on animal birth control (ABC) programmes? More than 20 lakh saplings were planted across the city in the past two decades, but only 9 lakh trees exist. "Where did the rest disappear?"

The minister's questions left GBA officials scrambling for answers. "I've not received any constructive answers yet," he said.

In a reverse swing, the minister said Bengaluru conducted 3.3 lakh ABC surgeries between 2016-17 and 2023. Given that the average lifespan of a stray dog in urban conditions is eight years, the number of surgeries exceeds 3.1 lakh dog population in 2019. "The numbers do not add up," Gowda said.

Similarly, he probed officers on lakhs of saplings planted in two decades but missing from current tree census records. On both issues, the minister offered solutions: Nearly double the annual ABC target, and involve citizens in the saplings drive.

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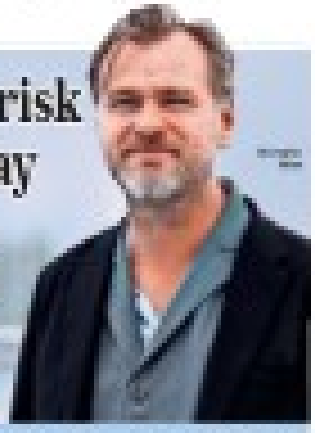
Bangalore Times
Doctors' Day

It's tough for people to see me doing negative roles now: Sonu Sood

'Bangalore always keeps bringing me back'

'I'm ready with my next pan-India directorial'

The biggest risk of all is to play it safe with films: Nolan

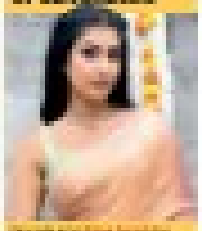


OUT & PROUD

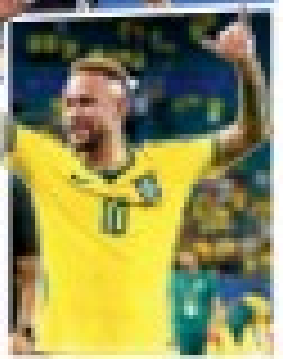
'INCLUSION DOESN'T END WITH RAINBOW LOGOS'

Buzzstop

DIVYA SURESH ALLEGES HARASSMENT ON THE STREETS OF BENGALURU



The last hurrah of football's finest



RT Nagar's Dinnur Main Rd Leaves Pedestrians Weaving Through Traffic As Broken Pavements Turn Every Walk Into Safety Gamble

Goodbye, Footpath HELLO, TRAFFIC

Pics: Chethan Shivakumar

DANGER AHEAD: The busy RT Nagar connector has become a pedestrian hazard, with footpaths swallowed by vendors, vehicles, mounds of garbage and neglect

Walk-o-meter

1/5

Dinnur Main Road, RT Nagar

SAFETY Bad

Heavy BMTC and school bus traffic, coupled with encroachments, garbage and parked vehicles, force pedestrians onto the carriageway. Broken slabs and disappearing footpaths further increase the risk of accidents

ACCESSIBILITY Bad

Abrupt level changes make movement difficult for senior citizens, children and persons with disabilities. Encroachments, parked vehicles and the absence of ramps severely limit accessibility

MAINTENANCE Poor

Broken slabs, missing sections, overgrown vegetation, and accumulated garbage point to poor upkeep, leaving much of the pedestrian infrastructure unusable

WHAT TOI SAW

- Extensive footpath encroachments by vendors & commercial establishments
- Garbage heaps blocking pedestrian movement
- Vehicles parked on footpaths
- Uneven pavement levels require constant stepping up and down
- Broken and missing slabs
- Footpaths narrowing to less than one metre at several locations
- Lack of continuity along the corridor
- Overgrown trees and branches obstruct movement
- Schoolchildren forced onto the carriageway
- No protective pedestrian infrastructure such as guardrails or buffer zones

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"Footpaths have been in this condition for years. Senior citizens, like my mother, cannot use many of these pavements because of the huge difference in levels. The roads, too, are in poor condition and traffic is overwhelming
Sunitha Sonu | KAVAL BYRASANDRA RESIDENT

"I walk my two children home from school every day amid constant fear of which vehicle might come from behind. When there is no safe space to walk on, what option do we have? Pedestrians are most neglected
Jennifer | RT NAGAR RESIDENT

"We've organised several awareness campaigns over the years to push for better pedestrian infrastructure, but little has changed. We recently spoke to govt school students who walk or cycle along this stretch, and many said they have simply become used to these conditions. Some even told us they have fallen while walking or cycling, but then just got up and carried on. Children shouldn't have to navigate such unsafe roads every day
Vidhya Goggi | DINNUR ROAD RESIDENT

Imagine a footpath so unusable that almost everyone chooses to walk beside speeding buses instead.

Welcome to Dinnur Main Road, one of RT Nagar's busiest neighbourhood connectors. **TOI** found nearly 90% of pedestrians walking on the busy carriageway despite the presence of footpaths. Encroachments, garbage, parked vehicles, and broken infrastructure have reduced footpaths to a strip here — barely any space, barely any walkers.

Instead of doing a fine balancing act on footpaths, citizens throw themselves in harm's way by walking on the extreme edge of the road caressing the kerb, with the constant buzz of traffic for company. The corridor connects RT Nagar with Sultanpalya and several surrounding neighbourhoods, carrying a steady stream of BMTC buses, school buses, cars, and two-wheelers through the day. Hundreds of residents, students, and shoppers use the stretch daily, yet pedestrians are left with little choice but to share the road with moving traffic.

Large sections of the footpath have been taken over by fruit vendors, cobbler kiosks, temporary stalls, banners and commercial spillover. In several places, shopkeepers have parked vehicles directly on the pavement, leaving virtually no room for people to walk.

Garbage heaps make matters worse. Waste, discarded furniture, dry tree trunks, and branches occupy entire sections of the footpath, forcing pedestrians onto the carriageway.

Continuity is another casualty. The footpath frequently narrows, disappears, or is blocked by encroachments and overgrown vegetation, forcing pedestrians to keep switching between the pavement and the road. At several locations, the usable width shrinks to less than a metre.

The situation is especially worrying around schools. **TOI** observed several children walking on the road because footpaths were either blocked or unusable.

Dinnur Main Road is relatively narrow for the traffic it carries, and buses travelling in opposite directions often leave barely enough space along the edge of the carriageway. For pedestrians pushed off the footpath, every walk becomes a risky negotiation with traffic.

For a corridor lined with homes, schools, and businesses, the pedestrian infrastructure falls well short of what the neighbourhood demands.

Man posing as helper steals iPhone, ₹3.5L

Chaithanya.Swamy @timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: A Good Samaritan act turned out to be an abominable fraud when a man, pretending to help a 36-year-old private firm employee injured in a road accident, stole the latter's iPhone and then used it to siphon off over Rs 3.5 lakh from his bank account.

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According to a complaint filed by Sachin Prasad, a resident of Yelahanka New Town, he met with an accident near Allalasandra in Yelahanka on June 19 while driving his car. "While I was driving, a pedestrian suddenly crossed my path. I instinctively swerved to save him, but lost control and rammed the car into the road divider," he told **TOI**. The car's airbags were deployed but Prasad sustained a fracture to one of his hands. Minutes later, a few passersby rushed to help him. "I remember that about four people came to help me while I was struggling to call an ambulance. One spoke to me and, noticing that I was finding it difficult to make the call, asked for my iPhone," he said.

Little did Prasad know that the helping hand would turn out to be a thief's. The man moved a short distance away on the pretext of calling an ambulance. Meanwhile, more people gathered at the accident spot, and the man fled with the phone. "I kept telling people that someone had taken away my phone, but they were focused on helping me. I was rushed to a nearby hospital, where I was admitted," Prasad said.

After being discharged on June 24, Prasad obtained a replacement sim card and soon began receiving SMS alerts about unauthorised transactions from his bank account.

The thief had removed the sim card from the iPhone and inserted it into an Android phone. He created a UPI ID and activated UPI Lite linked to Prasad's Bank of Baroda account. Between June 20 and 25, he transferred Rs 3,51,600 to multiple bank accounts. Realising the cyberfraud, Prasad immediately blocked his account and reported the fraud to cyber helpline 1930.

Later, he visited the bank and complained about the transactions. "The bank staff told me they were looking into the issue, but they haven't given me any explanation about how they allowed someone to create a new UPI ID and transfer the funds," Prasad said.

A senior officer said a case has been registered at northeast cybercrime police station, and Rs 2 lakh has been frozen in the fraudster's accounts.

Attibele plaza toll also revised

▸ Continued from page 1

Two-wheeler riders will also have to cough up more. The toll from Hosur Road to Bannerghatta Road has increased from Rs 30 to Rs 33, from Bannerghatta Road to Kanakapura Road from Rs 15 to Rs 17, and from Mysuru Road to Magadi Road from Rs 30 to Rs 33.

For buses travelling from Hosur Road to Bannerghatta Road, the toll has been raised from Rs 195 to Rs 215, while between Bannerghatta Road and Kanakapura Road it has gone up from Rs 155 to Rs 171. For trucks, Hosur Road to Bannerghatta Road toll has gone up from Rs 128 to Rs 141, and from Rs 140 to Rs 154 for the Mysuru Road-Magadi Road stretch.

On elevated expressway

Bangalore Elevated Tollway Pvt Ltd, which operates the 10km elevated stretch of Hosur Road between Silk Board and E-City, has revised toll. There is no change in single-journey toll for two-wheelers, cars/jeeps/vans and LCVs/mini buses. However, charges for multiple journeys have gone up by Rs 5 to Rs 10..

For cars, multiple-journey toll has been raised from Rs 95 to Rs 100, while for LCVs/mini buses it has gone up from Rs 130 to Rs 135. For buses and trucks, single-journey toll has been revised from Rs 175 to Rs 185, while multiple-journey charge has gone up from Rs 265 to Rs 275. The company revised toll at Attibele toll plaza too.

3 road crashes in city leave trio dead

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Three men died in as many road crashes reported in and around the city since Monday night. Two accidents were at Electronics City late Monday night.

In the first crash, 26-year-old private company employee Francis, a resident of Ashok Nagar, succumbed to injuries after a rashly driven multi-utility vehicle rear-ended his motorbike near Metro Junction on the elevated flyover around 9.30pm. A seriously injured Francis was shifted to St John's Hospital, where he succumbed later. The MUV driver fled leaving behind the vehicle.

The second accident was reported around 10.30pm near Neeladrinagar when a water tanker mowed down motorist Syed Yusuf, 30, injuring him seriously. Yusuf was shifted to a nearby private hospital, where he died around 5.30am Tuesday. The tanker driver drove away with the vehicle and police are collecting CCTV footage to trace the vehicle and arrest the driver.

The last accident was reported from Hoskote Tuesday morning when a truck rammed a roadside tree in Jadigenahalli Junction, killing its driver, Mahesh Kumar, 37, on the spot.

Fire in apartment kitchen

Bengaluru: Chaos prevailed when a fire broke out in the kitchen of a flat in the fourth floor of an apartment on Magrath Road, Ashok Nagar, Tuesday afternoon. Two fire tenders from nearby Mayo Hall fire station doused the flames within a hour.

We suspect gas leakage triggered the blaze. The house owner has not filed a complaint," a police source said. TNN

4-yr-old boy falls into shaft, dad files plaint

Bengaluru: A four-year-old boy sustained severe injuries after falling nearly 10 metres through a shaft at an apartment in Kasavanahalli near Bellandur on June 26, with his father accusing the builder and apartment management of gross negligence.

The boy's father told police the incident occurred at 2.25pm when his son was playing on the ground floor of the apartment premises. The father alleged the child unknowingly stepped onto a deep opening that had been covered only with a piece of cardboard. The cardboard gave way due to lack of proper support beneath it, causing the boy to plunge nearly 10 metres to basement 2. The boy sustained multiple fractures on his skull, face and legs, besides suffering severe internal injuries. Bellandur police have filed a case and issued a notice to Klassik Enterprises Pvt Ltd. TNN

300 acts of humanity: B'lurean rolls up sleeves for blood donation milestone

Jahnavi@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: When Bhoopendran V walks into a blood bank Wednesday, it will not be just another donation. The 59-year-old Bengalurean is set to donate blood for the 300th time, a rare milestone achieved after nearly four decades of quietly responding to the needs of strangers.

The journey began in 1989 when Bhoopendran accompanied his father — a World War II veteran and freedom fighter — to Victoria Hospital for treatment. While waiting at the hospital, he often saw anxious families standing in long queues, desperately hoping to secure a unit of blood for their loved ones. Those scenes stayed with him.

At a time when voluntary blood donation was beginning to replace paid ones, Bhoopendran decided to walk into a blood bank and donate for the first time the same year. "I realised blood has no substitute. Unless someone volunteers to donate, there is no way a patient can receive it," he said.

He never imagined that one decision would become a lifelong commitment. Over the past four decades, Bhoopendran has donated whole blood 68 times and single donor platelets around 230 times. He has travelled beyond Bengaluru to donate in cities such as Chennai, Mysuru and Udupi, whenever he learnt of patients in need.

Sunny Side up

For Bhoopendran, donating blood does not end when he leaves the blood bank. He makes it a point to call the patient's family later to check on their condition. "That's when I truly understand the value of blood donation. Blood banks can only provide blood if people come forward to donate," he said. His journey has also inspired his wife, Sujatha, who will donate blood for the 63rd time Wednesday.

Before their marriage, Bhoopendran had asked if she would support his commitment to blood donation. "Had she said no, I don't think I could have continued this journey. She has been my backbone," he said. The couple has donated together more than 50 times, often sitting side by side at donation camps and hospitals across the country.

AN ODE TO DOCTORS

Bhoopendran's 300th donation at Manipal Hospitals, Old Airport Road, will coincide with Doctors' Day, which he says, makes the occasion even more meaningful. "We donate one unit of blood, but doctors are the ones who transform it into a life saved. This donation will be dedicated to the medical fraternity," he said.

Despite his work in the govt's public distribution system, Bhoopendran says he never hesitated to leave work whenever an emergency call for blood came. "I may lose a day's income, but for someone else, it could help save a life," he said.

People often ask him the secret behind remaining fit enough to donate for nearly four decades. "There is no secret. I eat homemade food, get enough rest, stay away from stress and completely avoid junk food," he said. "Every time I donate blood, fresh cells are generated and because of this, I have heightened resistance towards diseases. I've remained free of health issues, including diabetes and hypertension, because of my regular donation. I also think the happy hormones released when I donate added to my wellness."

As he prepares to reach a milestone few donors achieve, Bhoopendran hopes more people will embrace voluntary blood donation.

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INNOCEAN-020/26

No Barking Up The Wrong Tree: Minister KBG Demands Explanations, Offers Solutions On Missing Gaps In Tree Census & Controlling Strays' Population

Two Questions, No Answers

Hamsaveni.N@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Why has the stray dog population not reduced in Bengaluru despite spending more than Rs 100 crore on Animal Birth Control (ABC) programmes?

More than 20 lakh saplings were planted across Bengaluru in the past two decades, but only around 9 lakh trees exist. Where did the rest disappear?

These two questions — never asked so directly by the chief minister or any minister so far — shot by Bengaluru development minister Krishna Byre Gowda Tuesday left civic officials stumped. Muddled replies from Greater Bengaluru Authority officials made it obvious they were not in sync with reality. "I have not received any constructive answers," he said. Excerpts from a GBA review meeting:

WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?

Pic for representation

Despite spending Rs 42 crore in five years, Bengaluru's stray dog population has declined only marginally. Why has the ABC programme not been effective, Gowda asked officials from the animal husbandry department of GBA at a review meeting. Gowda said the stray dog issue has continued for decades despite sterilisation efforts.

"The government has been trying to address the issue for over 50 years. This is not a new problem. Neither have we found a lasting solution nor has the problem reduced significantly," he said.

According to official data, Bengaluru had 3.1 lakh stray dogs in the 2019 census. The 2023 survey put the number at 2.79 lakh — a decline Gowda termed 'marginal' considering the scale and duration of the sterilisation programme.

Questioning officials on the numbers, Gowda said between 2016-17 and 2023, Bengaluru conducted 3.3 lakh ABC surgeries. Given that the average lifespan of a stray dog in urban conditions is eight years, the number of surgeries exceeds the city's recorded stray dog population in 2019 — which is 3.1 lakh.

"If the sterilisation numbers are accurate, why has the population not reduced drastically? If we have achieved near-total sterilisation, how do we still have close to 2.8 lakh stray dogs? The numbers do not add up," Gowda said.

The minister said he did not receive a convincing explanation from officials. "If we continue the programme in the same manner, we will never be able to solve the stray dog issue," he said.

Gowda also raised concerns over expenditure on the programme. The minister estimated that Rs 100-150 crore may have been spent over the past 25 years on it.

Solution: To improve outcomes, the minister directed officials to scale up sterilisation efforts. While Bengaluru currently performs 40,000-45,000 ABC surgeries annually, Gowda has set a target of 90,000 to one lakh sterilisations every year for the next three years.

WHERE DID THE TREES GO?

Next on the agenda: Tree plantation programme. Gowda asked officials to explain what happened to lakhs of saplings planted in two decades but missing from current tree census records.

Gowda said BBMP forest records show 20 lakh saplings were planted across Bengaluru since 2008. However, data from the ongoing tree census paints a different picture.

Officials said nearly 85% of the census has been completed and the survey has so far identified 9 lakh trees within the city limits. The count excludes trees located in major green campuses such as Cubbon Park, Lalbagh, IISc, GKVK, Bengaluru University and other large institutional lands.

"If over 20 lakh trees have been planted since 2008 and there are only 9 lakh trees identified in the census, what happened to the rest?" Gowda asked. He further questioned what happened to trees planted before 2008, including those dating back to the era of the Mysuru Maharajas, saying officials failed to provide a satisfactory explanation.

The minister scrutinised expenditure incurred on plantation activities. According to the forest wing, the cost of planting and maintaining a sapling under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) programme is around Rs 2,300, while compensatory afforestation plantations cost about Rs 3,108 per sapling.

Officials informed the meeting that the Rs 2,300 expenditure includes Rs 300 for digging and closing the pit, Rs 135 for the sapling, Rs 452 for a tree guard, Rs 18 for support sticks, Rs 1,064 for watering, Rs 114 towards security and Rs 119 for miscellaneous expenses. These costs cover maintenance for a period of three years.

However, Gowda questioned whether saplings were being planted according to prescribed standards. Referring to his observations from his own constituency, he said he had rarely seen pits dug to the required dimensions before plantation.

Solution: The minister said the focus should now be on creating a transparent system to track plantations and survival rates. The city plans to plant around 64,000 saplings this year. Gowda directed officials to involve residents more actively in the programme, with resident welfare associations being given priority for new plantations.

Pic for representation

Beda Bro: Govt launches drive against drugs

Bengaluru: In a crackdown on narcotics and a simultaneous push to curb drug abuse among youngsters, state govt Tuesday launched two key anti-drug campaigns, Operation RISE (Refuse, Inform, Support, Empower)' and Beda Bro (Let's Refuse, Bro) initiative. It also announced plans to destroy 4,276.4kg of seized drugs valued at Rs 97.9 crore soon.

Over 8.3 lakh students across the state took part in the programme, both online and offline, to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Operation RISE aims to tackle drug abuse through a structured, multi-level approach, combining awareness, reporting mechanisms and rehabilitation support.

Chief minister DK Shivakumar called for collective responsibility in tackling drug abuse and urged families, institutions and society to act without hesitation. Emphasising early intervention, he said, "The longer you hide your children's addiction, the more you destroy their future."

— Ananya Bhat

VTU results in 5 mins after 6th sem exam

Times News Network

Bengaluru: Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) has its own game of announcing results immediately after completion of examinations.

The university improved on its record by announcing the results of sixth semester engineering exam just five minutes after it ended.

A total of 60,856 students appeared for BE and BTech sixth semester exams. The exam concluded at 5.30pm Tuesday, and the results were announced at 5.35pm. Compared to previous years, the entire evaluation process of the rest of the papers was completed 21 days earlier. A total of 76.84% pass percentage was recorded.

VTU vice-chancellor S Vidyashankar, said: "Students wait eagerly for their results. Hence, we decided to announce them as quickly as possible. With proper preparation, we are able to release the results immediately."

A few weeks before, VTU had released results 10 minutes after the exam.

6TH SEMESTER RESULTS

Year	No. of students	Result time
2025–26	60,856	5 minutes
2024–25	58,232	10 days
2023–24	49,997	11 days
2022–23	41,835	10 days

"We have adopted digital evaluation and prepared ourselves to announce results quickly. This was possible with everyone's cooperation

UJ Ujwal | REGISTRAR (EVALUATION)

SI in 3-day custody for allegedly torturing boys, recording videos

Times News Network

Bengaluru: A day after city cops arrested their colleague, **Praveen Kumar**, sub-inspector with Amrutahalli station, on charges of sexually harassing boys during interrogation, a local court sent him to three-day police custody. Praveen is being questioned by Kothanur cops.

A sub-inspector from 2019 batch, Praveen was arrested Monday under Pocso Act, 2012. A native of Kolar, he has been charged with thrashing three minors, stripping them and forcing them to indulge in lewd acts. Praveen himself recorded the acts on video, which was recently leaked by a close family member.

"On June 27, 2025, Praveen summoned the three boys, aged 16-17, to question them in a murder case. Taking them to a hotel room, he first stripped them and thrashed them with his belt. Then, he forced them to indulge in a heinous act. While recording them, Praveen is heard shouting, directing them to obey his orders," a senior officer said.

Praveen's mobile also has videos showing suspects of a gang-rape dancing in the cell of Amrutahalli police station, on Praveen's orders. Another video showed him throwing chilli powder on the injuries of a suspected drug peddler. "In all these videos, we can hear Praveen's voice clearly. He abuses, shouts, uses filthy words , etc. However, we have sent the voice recording to forensic science laboratory to verify. What is unfortunate is that Praveen is a good hand in investigating crime cases, but his alleged activities are unpardonable," a senior officer said.

SI penalized for suppressing facts

Bengaluru: Obtaining an interim order by way of suppression/non-disclosure of material facts proved costly for a woman sub-inspector in Bengaluru.

The high court not only dismissed her petition, but also imposed Rs 1 lakh cost on TB Padmavathi, which has to be paid within eight weeks.

It all started with a road-rage incident wherein an auto driver allegedly threw a boulder on the car of Nabonita Sen, an advocate and the complainant, damaging the windshield. When she went to police station, there was delay. When she protested, SI Padmavathi allegedly kicked her. During the court hearing, Nabonita showed CCTV evidence of being kicked. Based on that, high court asked police to register a criminal case. When the SI challenged the case, and the matter came up before a vacation bench, a stay order was granted.

When a regular bench heard the case, Justice Nagaprasanna noted that nowhere in the petition, Padmavathi had mentioned the genesis of the case registered against her. TNN

KRS water for drinking purposes; agriculture can wait, says engineer

▶ Continued from page 1

Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha's Mandya district unit president Induvalu Chandrashekar said KRS Dam was built primarily to support agriculture in the Cauvery basin. "It is unfortunate that farmers today have to plead for irrigation water from a reservoir that was built for them," he said, recalling that Mysuru Maharaja Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar had pledged his wife's gold to build the dam.

Farmer leaders argue that the agricultural community has cooperated with diversion of KRS water for Bengaluru's drinking needs during drought years on humanitarian grounds. This year, however, a weak monsoon has left standing crops under severe stress, particularly sugarcane, the district's principal commercial crop.

Mandya annually produces nearly 60 to 70 lakh tonnes of sugarcane, sustaining five sugar factories and providing employment to thousands of farmers, labourers and transport workers.

Will raise farmers' issue with govt: Engr

Cauvery Neeravari Nigam superintendent engineer Rajaram said they are bound by govt directions to prioritize water for drinking purposes. "We have been instructed that existing water should be only used for drinking purposes. Farmers have been demanding water for agricultural purposes. We will bring this issue to the notice of the committee and govt, and based on their direction, we will work. If the existing storage is diverted for agriculture, the period of drinking water availability will reduce significantly," he said.

The coming weeks will be crucial. The administration now faces an unenviable choice: protect urban drinking water supplies or provide life-saving irrigation to standing crops. Whatever be the decision, it is likely to have economic, social and political consequences across the Cauvery basin.

Four men held for brawl outside Vidhana Soudha

Times News Network

Bengaluru: A street brawl in front of Vidhana Soudha has led to the arrest of four Nepalese men, police said Tuesday. The incident occurred between 5.45pm and 6pm on June 28 near Vidhana Soudha Metro station. Based on preliminary investigation, police said an argument broke out between two groups over causing a distraction while clicking photos. The altercation soon turned into a physical fight, drawing the attention of passersby and police personnel deployed in the area.

Police arrested four persons. A senior officer said both the groups comprised Nepalese nationals. The arrested include three from one group and one from the other. A case has been registered at Vidhana Soudha police station, the officer said.

A passerby made a video of the fight on mobile phone, and it went viral.

The arrested are residents of KR Pura and Banaswadi and work as security guards and labourers in hotels, police said.

Fire-safety audit in Chickpet, team to identify illegal buildings

Times News Network

Bengaluru: With Chickpet remaining vulnerable to fire accidents due to its dense commercial activity and narrow lanes, Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) ordered an immediate fire-safety audit of buildings in the central Bengaluru locality to assess firefighting systems, emergency exits and overall emergency preparedness.

Chairing a review meeting Tuesday, GBA chief commissioner Maheshwar Rao directed officials to constitute a special team of town planners to conduct a comprehensive survey of all buildings in Chickpet division.

The team has been asked to identify unauthorised buildings, issue notices to owners and initiate action.

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SAD DEMISE

K T Shiva Prasad
(1947 - 2026)

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of K.T. Shivaprasad on 30.06.2026.

He will be remembered with love and gratitude for the life he lived, the values he upheld, and the lives he touched.

Bereaved family, Relatives and friends.

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Regards,
Sathyakumar & Fly
Karnataka Automats Pvt Ltd.

18th Death Anniversary in Ever Loving Memory of
P. THIRUVASAGAM
BA, BL, PGDMM, DIP T&D
07.03.1945 to 01.07.2008
Retd. Divn Manager
LIC of India.
Family Members
M: 9900698989, 9449150524

OBITUARY

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Death Anniversary

R. Pushpa
Your Love & Memories are always with us.
By Son, Daughters & Family

REMEMBRANCES

5th YEAR REMEMBRANCE

SUDHA GURURAJA RAO
DOD - 1st July 2021
In our hearts forever
We miss you so much !
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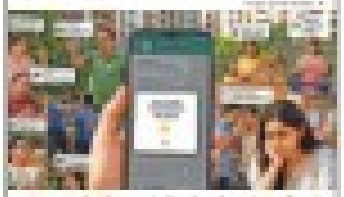
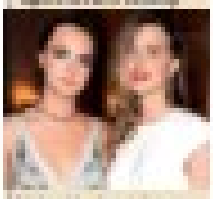
POV

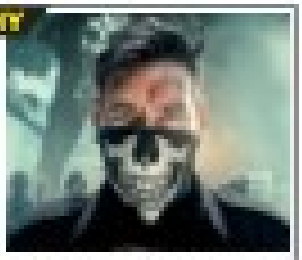


UP TO DATE | WHAT'S #TRENDING AND WHY

Cara confirms relationship with Amber, after she split with Lohany



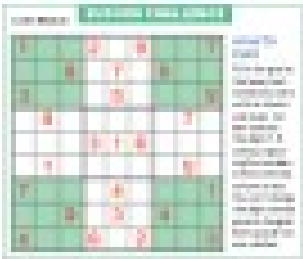
Teaser for Ajay Devgn's Shaitaan receives criticism from Rajputs

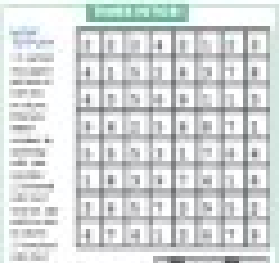


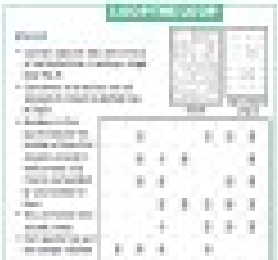
Priyadarshan splits from Hera Pheri 3, says the film will never hit the screens

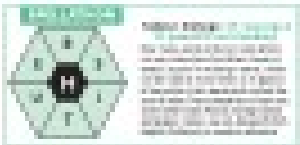
Whatsapp messenger to offer username to boost privacy

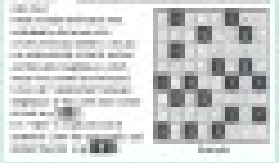
Suriya teams up with Hombale Films for a new project

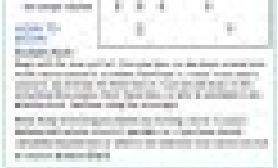


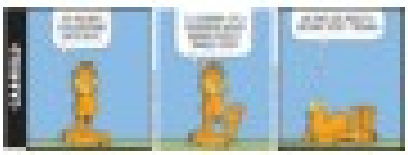


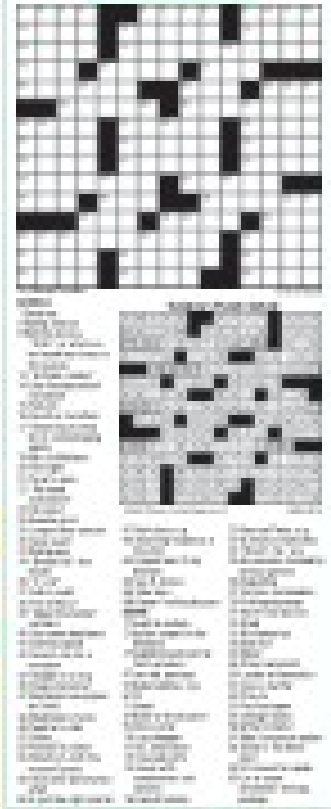


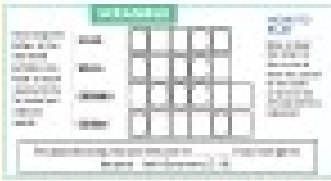


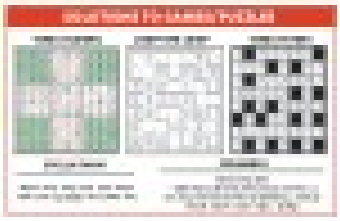












Parties deploy booth-level agents strategically for SIR

Sandeep.Moudgal
@timesofindia.com

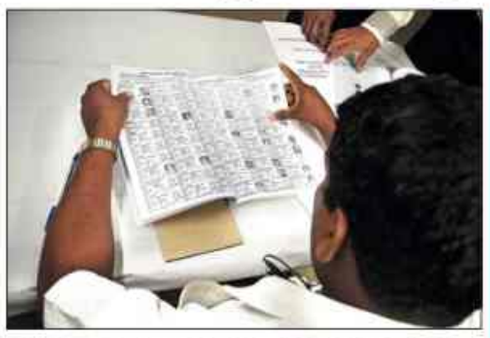
Bengaluru: The start of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Karnataka has set off a race among political parties to appoint booth-level agents (BLAs), who help voters with the verification process and flag any discrepancies, but none of the three major parties has been able to cover all 58,546 polling booths.

The biggest challenge is local demographics. BJP says it has appointed BLAs in around 51,000 booths but is yet to fill the remaining 9,000, many of them in Muslim-dominated areas. "In the 9,000 booths due to demographic challenges, we have been unable to find volunteers. But we will complete the appointments shortly," said BJP state general secretary and SIR committee convenor P Rajeev.

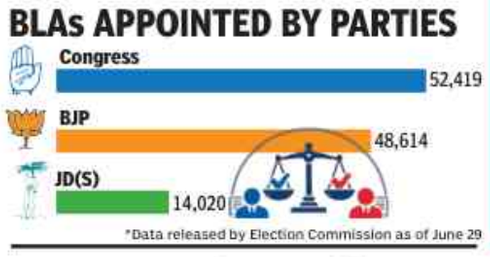
JD(S), with a more limited footprint in the state, has appointed around 25,000 BLAs, concentrating on constituencies where it has an established base. "We have covered south Karnataka completely, and in north Karnataka we have concentrated efforts in those segments where we have a support base, including current and former MLAs," said former MLC KA Thippeswamy.

Congress has taken a different approach. Instead of aiming for uniform coverage, it has deployed more workers in constituencies with sizeable minority populations, amid concerns that voters there could face deletion, said Rajya Sabha MP G C Chandrashekar.

Election Commission data reflects these contrasting strategies. BJP has appointed the highest number of BLAs in Belagavi and Bengaluru, while Congress has focused on BBMP Central and Mysuru, both of which have significant minority populations.



BLAs APPOINTED BY PARTIES



*Data released by Election Commission as of June 29

DAY 1: 77 DUPLICATES, 2.2% PROGRESS

Bengaluru: On day one of SIR Tuesday, the Election Commission distributed and collected filled and signed forms of 12,48,314 or 2.25% of voters in the state. However just a fraction of them (47,817) were digitised. For the state to steadily reach 99% coverage, each of the 30 days should ideally have 3.3% coverage. The first day focussed on VIP voters such as top officials and political representatives, as per sources. In visits of BLOs by 6pm, 77 voters were found to be duplicate, while 291 were found to be deceased. Two were absent, and 116 had shifted out of their constituencies. Two others had other reasons for not returning their forms.

Priyank calls ECI a puppet

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Congress Tuesday accused the Election Commission of India (ECI) of acting under pressure from the Centre, with home minister **Priyank Kharge** describing the poll body as a "puppet" of the govt.

Priyank said the state had raised 12 objections to the SIR process and was expecting a response from the chief election commissioner (CEC), but none had been received. "The CEC and the Election Commission are puppets in the hands of the govt. It is clear that the govt has no popular vote among the people, so they want to do these things," he said.

The state cabinet recently passed a resolution seeking changes before the SIR began. It called for an independent review of the SIR process, an extension of deadline for submitting enumeration forms, and greater transparency in the criteria, software and procedures used for voter verification. It also sought safeguards against arbitrary deletion of voters, demanded wider acceptance of identity documents including Karnataka's Kutumba ID, opposed shifting the burden of proof onto citizens, and called for special protections for vulnerable groups, including women, migrant workers, slum dwellers, persons with disabilities and transgender persons.

Won't stop questioning RSS: Priyank

Priyank Kharge said he will continue questioning the RSS despite a Bengaluru court issuing summons to him and Karnataka Youth Congress president Mohammed Haris Nalapad in a criminal defamation case over their alleged remarks against the Sangh Parivar. "I have nothing to fear if I have the Constitution by my side," Priyank said.

BLOs can snap fresh photos from their smartphones

▶ Continued from page 1

The CM clarified that if a family member is away from home, any other responsible person in the family can sign the enumeration form, which will be delivered to all households within the next seven days. For those voting since 2002 who lack complete paperwork, the CM noted that alternative residential or caste certificates can be used.

Chief electoral officer V Anbu Kumar, further clarified that the initial enumeration phase requires zero paperwork. "Even I have not submitted any document. At the enumeration stage, all voters only need to fill in the information already available in the 2002 electoral roll," he said.

Providing a new photo is also optional. BLOs can snap a fresh picture using their smartphones, he said, adding: "However, if the existing photograph is old, please provide a new one."

CM fills SIR form at his home in Bengaluru

> Karnataka govt will provide all necessary documents required for SIR. Everyone should retain their voting rights because losing them could make it difficult to access govt benefits. We want welfare benefits to reach all eligible voters of Karnataka, not people from other states
> **DK Shivakumar** | CM

CM: Will clear ₹37-k cr dues in 3 months

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Chief minister DK Shivakumar Tuesday sought three months' time to clear pending bills worth over Rs 37,370 crore to contractors for works executed under various departments.

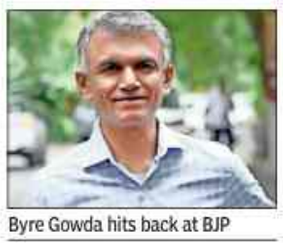
Shivakumar assured contractors that he would resolve their issues after holding talks soon with officials from the departments concerned and the finance department.

A delegation from Karnataka State Contractors Association (KSCA) met Shivakumar at Vidhana Soudha. R Manjunath, president of the association, told **TOI** the CM responded positively and sought three months' time to clear the pending bills. "The chief minister assured us that arrangements would be made to clear the bills, including by raising loans if necessary," said Manjunath.

KBG defends city infra funds, says Cong areas needed them

Hamsaveni.N @timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Krishna Byre Gowda, the Bengaluru development minister, Tuesday defended the allocation of Rs 2,000-crore infrastructure package to the city, arguing that Congress-held constituencies were earlier shortchanged under BJP govt and were now receiving funds to bridge years of infra gaps.



Byre Gowda hits back at BJP

The minister's remarks come after criticism from opposition leaders and civic groups over the distribution of funds under the latest package. As reported by **TOI**, a scrutiny of the govt order showed that Byatarayanapura, represented by Byre Gowda, received the largest identified constituency-wise allocation of Rs 88.5 crore, while Bengaluru's IT corridor received the lowest corporation-level allocation.

Hitting back at BJP, Byre Gowda said the party should first explain its own record before questioning the allocations. He claimed that while BJP-held constituencies collectively received around Rs 485 crore, Congress-held constituencies got only about Rs 101 crore, amounting to roughly 20% of the allocation. "If they had distributed funds fairly, there would have been no need for us to allocate more money to constituencies represented by Congress MLAs. These areas have lost out on development for four years. We are only trying to bridge that gap," he said.

BJP QUESTIONS BIAS IN ALLOCATION

Leader of opposition **R Ashoka** wrote on X, "On one hand, constituencies represented by Congress MLAs have received hundreds of crores of rupees. On the other hand, the 16 constituencies represented by BJP MLAs have been given only token amounts, as though they were receiving charity.""Don't the lakhs of Bengaluru residents living in constituencies represented by BJP MLAs also pay taxes? Don't they deserve good roads and infrastructure? Your politically motivated and vindictive decision will adversely affect the overall development of Bengaluru," he said. TNN

At D'sthala, Belur temples, BJP MLA swears he didn't crossvote

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hassan/Mangaluru: The political drama over alleged cross-voting in the legislative council elections took a new turn Tuesday, with BJP MLA HK Suresh taking an oath at the historic Chennakeshava Temple in Belur to assert his innocence.

TEMPLE RUN: Belur BJP MLA HK Suresh meets Sri Kshetra Dharmadhikari D Veerendra Heggade after visiting Sri Manjunatha Temple in Dharmasthala Tuesday

Amid continuing allegations of cross-voting, the Belur MLA visited the temple early in the morning along with hundreds of supporters and party workers.

He swore that he had committed no wrongdoing and had never acted against the party. After the ceremony, he left for Dharmasthala and said he would take a similar oath before Lord Manjunatha there as well.

Suresh alleged that a major conspiracy was being hatched against him by those who could not tolerate his political growth.

Suresh became emotional and said God would never have forgiven him if he had betrayed Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who campaigned for him during the 2023 assembly elections. He was elected to the assembly for the first time in 2023.

Suresh asserted that he could neither be purchased nor lured with money.

"It is an illusion that I can be bought. God has blessed me with wealth," he said. "People can win me only through love and affection," he added.

Visits Dharmasthala

BJP MLA HK Suresh also visited Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala Tuesday. "Some people have accused me of cross-voting in the MLC election. I am making this statement after taking an oath before Lord Manjunatha. I am a loyal BJP worker and have neither cross-voted nor betrayed the party. I voted for the candidate recommended by our party president and the leader of opposition. Lord Manjunatha, along with the people of my constituency, is a witness to this. BJP is like my mother," he told reporters after offering prayers.

Suresh said he had sent letters to BJP state president BY Vijayendra, leader of opposition R Ashoka, BJP national general secretary Radha Mohan Das Agarwal, and BJP national general secretary (organisation) BL Santhosh regarding the matter.

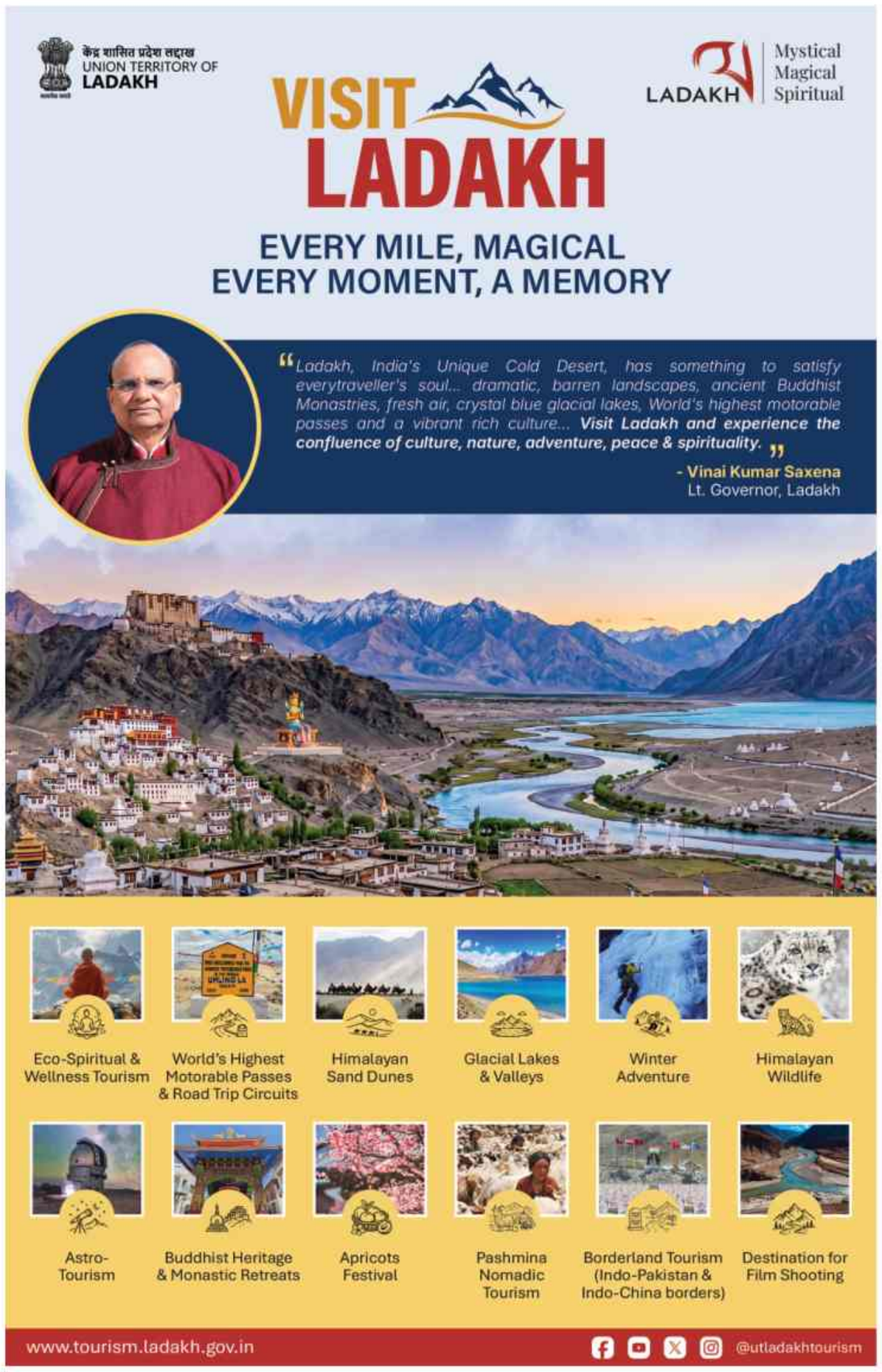
The MLA also met Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala Dharmadhikari D Veerendra Heggade.

Don't give TN an excuse on Mekedatu: CM

Bengaluru: Chief minister **DK Shivakumar** Tuesday directed officials to plug any technical gaps in Karnataka's proposed Mekedatu balancing reservoir project, saying Tamil Nadu is attempting to raise objections before the Supreme Court on "minor pretexts" to delay the project.

Chairing the standing committee meeting of Karnataka State Wildlife Board, Shivakumar instructed officials to examine whether any minor technical issues existed in the project proposal and address them promptly so that such objections could be effectively countered.

The CM also ordered resumption of safari and eco-tourism activities in Bandipur and Nagarahole national parks. Officials informed that tiger and leopard density in designated safari zones was higher than in areas witnessing severe human wildlife conflict. TNN



Reels have reduced music to 15 seconds: All Ok

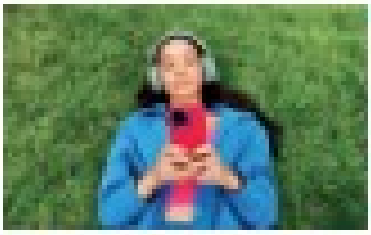
The singer-rapper comments on shrinking attention spans, rap rivalries and dreaming big for Kannada indie music

BUZZ STOP

AI usage is the opposite to making art, says Madonna

JUST IN

Jasmine handles accused of lip-syncing at a live concert in Hyderabad



How to: Discover new music beyond what your daily algorithm suggests

'AI can't replicate emotion in music'

Nikhil Chinapa, who believes music remains deeply human, weighs in on AI and India's music federal scene

Music is the truest form of love I've ever experienced: Shruti Haasan

Shruti on the songs that define her

Safety aboard school bus statutory duty: HC

Court Refuses To Quash Probe Against School

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Holding that the safety of children on school buses is a statutory obligation and not a matter of convenience, the high court has refused to quash criminal proceedings against the management of Divyajyothi School in Maddur taluk, Mandya district, over an incident that left a class 4 student permanently blind in one eye.

On Aug 1, 2025, some students travelling on the school bus carried coloured confetti sprays/sparklers and used them inside the vehicle. One such spray entered the eyes of the son of complainant Shilpa Chandrashekhar, causing severe injury. The child subsequently lost vision in one eye and suffered disability assessed at 40% to the whole body.

Koppal police registered a case on Sept 5, 2025. The school management challenged the FIR before HC.

The school argued that it had taken all necessary precautions, including deploying a bus attendant and installing CCTV cameras. It maintained that the incident was the result of an unfortunate act by another child and that the management could not be held responsible for what occurred on the bus after school hours.

Police, however, contended that although CCTV cameras had been installed, they were not functioning and no attendant was present at the time of the incident.

Justice M Nagaprasanna observed that a school undertaking transportation of children assumes a heightened duty of care, particularly when young students are involved.

"A child of tender age, yet to behold the full bloom of life, was condemned to live with permanent visual impairment," the judge said.

Rejecting the school's plea, the court said several issues required probe, including whether an attendant was present, the CCTV system was functional, dangerous or prohibited materials were allowed on the bus, and whether the school management failed in its supervisory duties.

No relief for agent who aided in renewal of 15 fake passports

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The high court refused to quash proceedings against a travel agent from Mangaluru, who allegedly facilitated renewal of 15 passports with the same fake address, including that of a terror suspect.

"Any individual, whether a private citizen, intermediary or public servant, who, by act of commission or omission, acts against the interest of the nation must be brought to book," Justice M Nagaprasanna observed, while rejecting the petition by UM Haidar, a physically-challenged person, who runs a travel agency.

Shanthi Bhushan H, deputy solicitor general, appearing for central govt, submitted that the agency address of the petitioner is fake and for 15 applications, the same fake address of the agency was used.

Justice Nagaprasanna rejected the petition, noting at this stage, the material is sufficient to require the petitioner to stand trial and vindicate his innocence in accordance with law.

His disability or personal circumstances, though deserving of human sympathy, cannot become grounds to truncate prosecution. When the allegation concerns facilitation of documentation in favour of a person suspected of terrorist links, the issue ceases to be one of private criminality and assumes larger public significance, he observed, noting that the constable who helped verification also needs to be prosecuted.

During police verification process, it was noticed that renewal of the passport of Ibrahim Khalil, the most-wanted man by Andhra Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad, was also facilitated by Haidar

3 vols. of Jain encyclopedia unveiled

Bengaluru: The fourth, fifth and sixth volumes of Arya Yug Vishay Kosh (encyclopedia), dedicated to the subject of Arihant, were released Tuesday, marking a milestone in documenting Jain philosophy. The encyclopedia is the result of more than 33 years of research, drawing from over 1,000 Jain Agamas, scriptures and religious texts to present ancient Indian wisdom in a contemporary format.

The project was developed under the guidance of Jainacharya Shri Yugbhushansurishwarji (Pandit Maharaj Saheb), who said the objective of Arya Yug Encyclopedia is to present knowledge in a manner that today's youth can easily understand, appreciate and apply in their lives. "Ancient Indian wisdom contains solutions to many modern-day problems. Our effort is to make this knowledge relevant and accessible without compromising its original essence," he said.

P Krishna Bhat, former judge of Karnataka HC, appreciated the enormous scale and scholarly depth of the project. He said preserving such invaluable knowledge for future generations is of immense importance. TNN

1 WRONG DIGIT, ₹7K FINE

Typo sparks costly rail row

Anush.S@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: A simple typing error while booking a train ticket turned into a costly lesson for an IT professional, who was fined more than Rs 7,000 and treated as a ticketless traveller despite carrying a valid reservation and identity proof.

After quitting his job in Bengaluru, 24-year-old Ramakant M was preparing to return to his hometown, Nagpur, Maharashtra, on June 23. Around 8pm, he boarded 22691 KSR Bengaluru–Hazrat Nizamuddin Rajdhani Express. The journey appeared routine until the travelling ticket examiner (TTE) arrived to verify tickets.

Seated in his reserved second AC berth, Ramakant showed his e-ticket on his phone. What followed left him stunned. "When I displayed the ticket, the TTE asked me to come with him to the first AC coach. Another TTE joined us there. They told me my ticket was invalid and that I might have to pay a penalty amounting to twice the fare," Ramakant recalled.

According to him, the officials pointed out that his age had been entered as "1" instead of "24" while booking the ticket. "Initially, I thought there was some problem with their system. But when I checked the ticket myself, I realised it was a typing error from my end," he said.

Ramakant said he immediately produced his ID proof to establish his age and identity. However, the officials maintained the ticket was invalid because the age details did not match. "This was a genuine error. Even if I had entered my correct age, the fare would have remained exactly the same because I did not claim any concession or discount. I was carrying a valid govt ID that matched my name and identity. Despite that, I was charged Rs 7,035 for travelling 'without ticket', taking my total travel cost to more than Rs 10,000," he said.

Left with little choice, Ramakant paid the penalty through UPI and received a receipt. After reaching Nagpur on June 24, he filed a complaint through RailMadad grievance redressal system seeking a refund of the fine. The complaint, however, was closed within a day. In its response, the railways said the action taken by the ticket-checking staff was in accordance with existing rules.

The official closing remark stated: "During ticket checking, it was found that the age particulars furnished were incorrect and did not match the actual age of the passenger travelling."

The railways further said passengers are required to verify ticket details after booking and rectify discrepancies at a Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counter before chart preparation and journey commencement. "In this case, the discrepancy was not rectified prior to boarding the train," the response read.

SWR promises to conduct inquiry

South Western Railway said the penalty was legally permissible in cases involving discrepancies in passenger details, but acknowledged concerns about the manner in which the matter was handled.

"It is not possible to book a ticket through the IRCTC website for a one-year-old to travel alone. It could have been a technical glitch. We'll examine how the age was recorded as one," said SWR chief public relations officer Manjunath Kanamadi. "However, while the fine might be legal, there was no need for the ticket-checking staff to take the passenger to the pantry or another compartment; we've initiated an inquiry," he pointed out.

Frustrated by the outcome, Ramakant questioned how such a booking could have been accepted in the first place. "As per rules, I understand that the mistake was mine and I have no issue if they strictly followed the law. But how can IRCTC allow a one-year-old to travel alone? That simply doesn't make sense," he said.

Computer science engineers & BCA grads can now teach CS in govt schools

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The school education and literacy department notified the eligibility criteria for appointment of computer science teachers in govt schools, paving the way for recruitment to the newly created posts for classes 1 to 8.

According to the govt notification, candidates must hold a bachelor's degree in computer science, computer applications, information technology, computer engineering or bachelor of technology in computer science.

The notification also makes proficiency in Kannada mandatory. Applicants should have studied Kannada either as first or second language in SSLC and as a language in PU as well.

Candidates appointed as computer science teachers will be required to obtain bachelor of education (BEd) degree from an institution recognised by National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) within five years of their appointment, if they do not already have one. In addition, they must clear Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) within five years of appointment as computer science teachers in the school education department. The notification specifies a pay-scale of Rs 44,425-Rs 83,700. A total of 2,500 posts for computer science teachers were sanctioned for govt schools catering to classes 1 to 8.

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I, MOHAMMED NASRULLAH (New Name) Aadhaar No. 586549444046, S/o Ameer Jaan, R/a No. 30, 1st Main, Noor Nagar, Chokkanahalli, Opp: R.R.Signature Apartments, Dr. Shivram Karanth Nagar Post, Bengaluru - 560077, have changed my name from Mohammed Nasrulla to MOHAMMED NASRULLAH vide Affidavit sworn before S.R. Ravikumar, Advocate and Notary, Dated : 30-06-2026.

I, SANDEEP KESWANI, R/o RF-311, PURVA RIVIERA, VARTHUR ROAD, MARATHAHALLI, BENGALURU-560037, have changed my daughter's name (minor) from KAASHVI to KAASHVI KESWANI.

I, Sachin Smithan T, son of M. Thomas (also known as Thomas M and Thomas Moses) and Rekha (also known as Rekha Thomas), residing at No. 15, DLF 80 Ft Main Road, 3rd Cross, Nyanappanahalli, Off Bannerghatta Road, Akshayanagar, Bengaluru - 560068, hereby declare that my name appears as "Sachin Smithan" in my earlier Passport and Birth Certificate and as "Sachin Smithan T" in my educational records. The initial "T" denotes my family name, and both names refer to one and the same person.I further declare that the names M. Thomas, Thomas M, and Thomas Moses refer to one and the same person, namely my father, and the names Rekha and Rekha Thomas refer to one and the same person, namely my mother.This declaration is made for the purpose of obtaining a Passport and for all concerned.

I, Chinmay Manjunath Kumbar, S/o Manjunath Kumbar, residing at No. 40, Kasturi Nilaya, 2nd Flr., P&T Layout, 5th H Cross, Near Mehra Education Society, Horamavu, Bengaluru-560043, declare that I have changed my name from Chinmay Kumbar to Chinmay Manjunath Kumbar. Chinmay M Kumbar in my records refers to me, where M stands for Manjunath. Henceforth, I shall be known as Chinmay Manjunath Kumbar for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/06/2026 sworn before Notary B.Seshagiri at Bengaluru.

I, Paridhi (D/o Neeraj Bansal), resident of B204, Kots Une, #1, 2nd Cross Rd, Sathya Sai Layout, Whitefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka do hereby declare that I have changed my name to Paridhi Bansal and henceforth, I shall be known as Paridhi Bansal in all purpose, vide affidavit no. IN-KA05577768805519Y

I, PANASURIYA KHUSHBU CHANDUBHAI ,W/ O; HARDIK CHIMANBHAI VAGHASIYA, R/O: G3,GROUND FLOOR,CJN SAI RESIDENCY,1ST CROSS, SRI SATHYA SAI LAYOUT,WHITEFIELD, BLR-560016. Have changed my name as KHUSHBU HARDIK VAGHASIYA.

I, H J Yashvanthkumar S/o Jayakumar R/o 11&30 Janani natarajalayout JP Nagar Bangalore have changed my name to YASHWANTHA KUMARA vide affidavit dated 29th June 2026.

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We're not a trend; our stories deserve to be heard all year, says drag artiste Maya

While Pride may be over, for Bengaluru-based drag performer Maya, the passion behind her mission of queer visibility is a drag that lasts beyond June, confounding workplaces and cafés

"Bengaluru gave me the safe space to become myself"

Bangalore Mirror OUT PROUD

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WHAT TO DO: Use Android setup tools or Switch to Android with cable or wireless transfer

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4. Tap Trust on iPhone and sign in to Google
5. Choose data types and tap Copy to transfer

NOTE: A stable Wi-Fi or mobile network connection is required during setup

SCAN FOR MORE HACKS

Tip from nehasaini1@timesinternet.in
Readers are advised to follow official websites & updated rules

Huge egg risks 13-year-old parrot's life; family takes it to Delhi for surgery

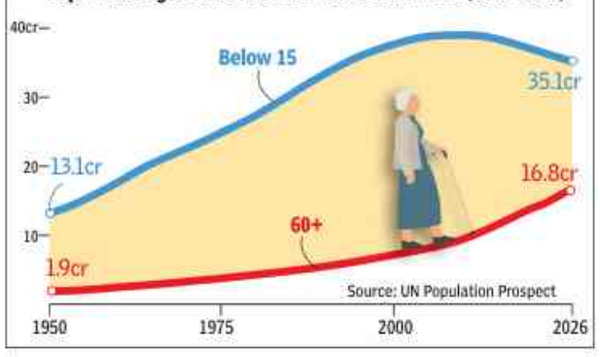
Mithu the parrot is ready to lay an egg but can't because it's too big. The parrot, 13 years old, is in terrible pain has been taken to Delhi for surgery as specialised avian surgery of the kind she needs is unavailable in Kolkata. The egg, bigger than usual, is stuck in its pelvic region. A household in Hooghly district, has been Mithu's family for the past two years. Tia, the little girl in the family, is very attached to her feathered friend and is unsure when she'll get to meet Mithu again. Like most parrots caged alone, Mithu had earlier laid eggs that didn't fertilise. This time, extra calcium deposits have made the egg too large to emerge naturally. The complicated surgery to treat egg-binding, as the condition is known, costs around Rs 1.5 lakh. Veterinarians in Delhi are exploring affordable surgery options to save the bird's life by removing the egg. TNN

STATOISTICS A slice of life in numbers

India is greying but Kerala made it official first

India's under-15 population has already peaked and is declining, while its senior citizen count keeps climbing. Kerala's elderly welfare ministry may be seen as an early response to the trend

Population aged below 15 and above 60 in India (1950-2026)



2-yr rigorous jail term for trio for drug possession

Rebecca.Samervel
@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: A special NDPS court Tuesday convicted three men from Gujarat and sentenced them to two years of rigorous imprisonment for possessing Alprazolam in 2009. The trio, Asif Arab, Ayubkhan Pathan and Siraj Shaikh were out on bail.

"The offence is undoubtedly serious in nature, as offences relating to narcotic drugs have an adverse impact on society and particularly on the younger generation. Therefore, while imposing sentences, the court is required to maintain a balance between the rights of the individual and the interest of society," special judge Arvind Manohar Bhandarwar observed.

He said that though delay by itself cannot be a grounds to dilute the seriousness of an offence under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, the prolonged pendency of the proceedings is nevertheless a relevant factor while determining the appropriate quantum of sentence.

Monsoon session of Parl likely to begin on July 20

New Delhi: Parliament's monsoon session may be held between July 20 to August 13, with the Union Cabinet likely to finalise the schedule on Wednesday, sources said.

The cabinet committee on parliamentary affairs headed by defence minister Rajnath Singh is likely to take a call on the duration of the session on Wednesday, they added.

The coming session has assumed significance amid the buzz that govt may bring back the bill to amend women's reservation law and raise the maximum strength of Lok Sabha from 543 to 850 amid parties like TMC and Shiv Sena (UBT) hit by rebellion from a majority of their MPs. TNN

Cybersecurity, AI, Chinese imports dominate PM review

Energy Mins Highlight Need To Protect Domestic Players

Dipak.Dash@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Concerns about cheap imports from China, including dumping of some products, at a time when its growth has slowed down found a reflection at PM Modi's meeting with secretaries Tuesday, where steel and renewable energy ministries highlighted the need to protect domestic players from subsidised shipments.

Officials present in the meeting said home secretary Govind Mohan stressed on the need to indigenise cybersecurity systems and AI to avoid any foreign player weaponising them. Defence secretary R K Singh also highlighted the need to achieve self reliance in weapons and ammunition as he referred to the recent wars in West Asia and Ukraine.

TOI has learnt that steel secretary Sandeep Paundrik said that while steel consumption in India is increasing, there is a fall in demand in other countries, including China. At such a time govt needs to take steps to protect Indian players and to prevent dumping of foreign products at cheaper rates.

The PM encouraged wider utilisation of the PM GatiShakti as an effective platform for inter-departmental coordination and informed decision-making

Pointing out that since the MSME sector accounts for roughly 45% of the country's total crude steel output, PM suggested that there is a need to take necessary steps, an official said. Some of Chinese steel is also being routed through Asean countries. Similarly, renewable energy secretary Santosh Kumar Sarangi raised the issue of India's high dependence on solar cells while there is self-sufficiency in solar panels. He also underlined the need to support domestic players and local production.

The three-and-a half-hour meeting, which focused on 'deregulation and other reforms for ease of doing business and ease of living' and 'promoting self-reliance', started on a lighter note with PM telling the secretaries that he won't speak. "I will be in listening mode today," PM said, according to an official. Over three dozen secretaries spoke for three minutes each. During the meeting, PM made observation, saying while it's a matter of great satisfaction that more areas are coming under Ramsar sites — wetlands designated of international importance — reserved forests, there is a need to have a "whole of govt approach" and to use the GatiShakti framework for better decision making. In an official release, the PMO said, "PM stressed the importance of adopting a whole-of-govt approach and breaking departmental silos. Highlighting the importance of integrated planning and coordination, he encouraged wider utilisation of the PM GatiShakti as an effective platform for inter-departmental coordination and informed decision-making."

45% of Indian homes need upgrades for EV charging: Study

New Delhi: Amid the push for EVs and Delhi govt's policy of stopping registration of CNG- and petrol-fuelled three-wheelers from Jan 2027 and two-wheelers from April 2028, a study released on Tuesday has found that nearly 45% of Indian homes need electrical upgrades to safely charge EVs at home.

The study, carried out by Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE) and Kazam, is based on a dataset of over 80,000 residential EV charger installations across tier-I, tier-II and tier-III cities, covering independent homes, apartment complexes, informal settlements and shared rental housing.

The findings are significant considering that most electric two- and three-wheelers are charged at home. Earlier, independent studies by electric two-wheeler manufacturers had shown that most such vehicles run a maximum distance of around 60 km a day and a single full battery charge is sufficient for this. TNN

India, China transgress due to absence of demarcation: Rijiju

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Union minister Kiren Rijiju has rejected the claim of a tribal body from his home state of Arunachal Pradesh that the Chinese army has occupied parts of their ancestral grazing and agriculture land, emphasising that there is no "intrusion" into the Indian side, though transgressions are committed by both countries from time to time due to the absence of clear border demarcation.

"There is no intrusion. Transgressions from both sides happen due to the absence of demarcation," he told **TOI**. Rijiju, the Lok Sabha MP from Arunachal West, rued the lack of infrastructure development in the border region of state, the largest in area in the Northeast, during the tenure of earlier govts at Centre. He said PM Narendra Modi-led govt has prioritised building infra in the region.

The politically sensitive issue of alleged Chinese incursion into Indian territory was brought into focus after a tribal body representing a community living along the border alleged that People's Liberation Army of China has occupied parts of their ancestral grazing, hunting and farming land in Upper Subansiri district over past six years, prompting calls for official verification.

Nah Welfare Society president Keru Chader, in a submission to Upper Subansiri deputy commissioner, alleged that Chinese forces had gradually strengthened their presence across five locations in Taksing revenue circle, a remote border region close to India-China frontier.

Indian Army was also dismissive of the claim of tribal body. It had said, "We have seen some media reports alleging recent encroachment by Chinese PLA and the setting up of camps in Arunachal Pradesh. These reports are incorrect and without any basis."

'Slaughter' claim: J&K man hoofs camel to court

Naseer.Ganai
@timesofindia.com

Srinagar: A camel seized by Srinagar authorities on suspicion it would be slaughtered ahead of Eid al-Adha in May has become the centre of a legal dispute, with the owner alleging unlawful confiscation and saying it was not meant to be killed but was purchased for rides and photos at a tourist resort.

The camel is now the most unusual denizen at Srinagar's Municipal Corporation's (SMC) veterinary complex, jostling for space with 300 animals, including a cow, two donkeys, dogs and 60 cats, among them Persian cats abandoned by owners. Nearly everyone who walks through the gates stops to look at the one-humped animal and asks how the two-year-old ended up there.

Dawood Ahmad Shah is a big reason why the camel is where it is. The animal rights activist spotted a social media post indicating the camel would be slaughtered on Eid. Shah, who runs Animal Rescue Kashmir, said he alerted officials and said their intervention led to its "rescue" from Budgam. Ghulam Rasool Bhat, the owner, contests the claims and demands that SMC return it to him. "It took us some time to figure out who had taken it. The police later said they had seized it. We have moved court seeking its release," he said.

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED
(A Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking & an ISO 27001-2022 Certified Company)
VIDYUTH SOUDHA, VIJAYAWADA-520004.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The APTRANSCO invites bids online for **i) Spec.No.PMM12-e-50/2026:** 220kV & 132kV PTs **ii) Spec.No.PMM12-e-51/2026:** 132kV Metering CTs. **Date & Time of availability of above tenders: 30.06.2026 at 5:00 PM,** Website: **www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** Contact No.CE/Transmission: **0866- 2429230.**

RO. No: GMCC/APTRANSCO/89/26-27 **Sd/- Chief Engineer/Transmission**

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

RFP Tender Notice No.27/2026-27/SE(PL&C)/EE(East Zone)/DB/GVMC/Dt:29-06-2026

01. No. of Works : 1 (One) RFP Tender
02. Downloading Starting Date : 29-06-2026 @ 8.00 PM
03. Downloading End Date : 16.07.2026 @ 4.00 PM
04. Last date for Submission of bid : 16.07.2026 @ 4.00 PM

Further details at http://www.eprocurement.gov.in
O/o the Superintending Engineer (PL&C) Sd/- Commissioner, GVMC

BENGALURU SOUTH CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division, Opposite to Sagar Hospitals, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bengaluru–560111

No.: EE(PN)/TEND/03/2026-27 Date: 29.06.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Tender Document System)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division, Bengaluru South City Corporation, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in Greater Bengaluru Authority (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike) or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed in the table below. **(Standard Tender Document KW-4)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Improvements to selected ward roads, drains, footpath and culverts in Ward No.1, 2 and 3 in Padmanabhanagara Division, Bengaluru South City Corporation. (Comprising of 6 works in G.O. No: UDD 429 MNY 2026, BSCC Annexture-5 Sl. No. 24 to 29) PACKAGE No. GOK-ADDL-PN-01. **Approximate Amount put to Tender (Rs. in Lakh): 956.80, EMD Rs.: Rs. 15.00 Lakh (Rs. 5.00 Lakh through online payment & Rs. 10.00 Lakh through BG).**
2	Improvements to selected ward roads, drains, footpath and culverts in Ward No.4, 5 and 6 in Padmanabhanagara Division, Bengaluru South City Corporation. (Comprising of 6 works in G.O. No: UDD 429 MNY 2026, BSCC Annexture-5 Sl. No. 30 to 35) PACKAGE No. GOK-ADDL-PN-02. **Approximate Amount put to Tender (Rs. in Lakh): 1036.80, EMD Rs.: Rs. 15.00 Lakh (Rs. 5.00 Lakh through online payment & Rs. 10.00 Lakh through BG).**

Calendar of Events: (1) The tender document can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of the Government of Karnataka from: **01.07.2026. (2)** Last date for submission of queries: **04.07.2026** within **3:00 p.m. (3)** Pre bid meeting will be held on **04.07.2026** at **4:00 p.m.** in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Jayanagara Zone (Zone-1), Bengaluru South City Corporation, 9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagara 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560011. **(4)** Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **08.07.2026** upto **4:00 p.m. (5)** Date and time for opening of Technical bid: **09.07.2026** at **4:05 p.m. (6)** Date and time for opening of Financial bid: **10.07.2026** after **4:00 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office, during office hours or website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division, Bengaluru South City Corporation

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH,
Room No. 324, Bapu Bhawan, Vidhan Shabha Marg, Lucknow (UP) 226001, India

ADVERTISEMENT NO.- 02/2026

Department of Energy, Government of Uttar Pradesh invites on-line application for the following posts:-

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE POST	NAME OF CORPORATION /DISCOM	NOS. OF VACANCY
1-	Director (IT)	U.P.Power Corporation Ltd., Lucknow	1

Last date of application is 15 July, 2026 till 5 P.M.

Details and online application is available on the website: ***www.uppcl.org***

The following information will generally be sought in application form on website. (The indicative format is only for reference).

Basic details (Name, father's/Husband name, age, address, email, mobile no. etc.) educational qualifications details, work experience, details of your vision and achievement in past organizations.

Ro No. 09 Date: 30/06/2026

राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण, उत्तराखण्ड
45बी, तृतीय तल, आईटीएपार्क, सहस्त्रधारा रोड, देहरादून
ई–मेल: ceo-shauk@uk.gov.in

पत्रांक 511 रा०स्वा०प्रा० / 2025–26 / Tender AAUY&SGHS Scheme/08/ दिनांक 30 जून 2026

निविदा सूचना

राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा आयुष्मान भारत प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना / अटल आयुष्मान उत्तराखण्ड योजना को ट्रस्ट मोड के स्थान पर इन्श्योरेंस मोड में परिवर्तन के संबंध में निविदा आमंत्रित की जा रही है। निविदा दस्तावेज **Gem** पोर्टल से दिनांक 01 जुलाई 2026 को समय प्रातः 10:00 बजे से डाउनलोड किए जा सकेंगे तथा निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 25 जुलाई 2026 को समय सायं 5:00 बजे तक निर्धारित है। प्री–बिड का आयोजन दिनांक 08 जुलाई 2026 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे ऑनलाईन / ऑफलाईन माध्यम से होगी। जिसका लिंक **https://sha.uk.gov.in/** पर उपलब्ध रहेगा। निविदा से संबंधित परिशिष्ट, संशोधन या निरस्तीकरण आदि की जानकारी **https://gem.gov.in/ and/or https://sha.uk.gov.in/** पर उपलब्ध रहेगी। सभी इच्छुक निविदादाताओं के लिए यह अनिवार्य है कि वे उपरोक्त पोर्टल **https://gem.gov.in/** पर पंजीकरण (रजिस्ट्रेशन) कराएं। बिना रजिस्ट्रेशन के निविदा प्रक्रिया में भाग लेना संभव नहीं होगा। किसी भी अन्य जानकारी हेतु निविदादाता किसी भी कार्यदिवसों में प्रातः 10:00 बजे से सायं 5:00 बजे तक अधोहस्ताक्षरी कार्यालय, राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण, उत्तराखण्ड, देहरादून से संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी
राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण, उत्तराखण्ड

KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
#49, "Parisara Bhavan". 1st to 5th Floor, Church Street, Bengaluru - 560001, Karnataka,
Phone: 25581383, 25589112, 25586520, Fax: 080-25586321
E-mail: ho@kspcb.gov.in, Website: https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

No.PCB/85/BLD/2025/2026-27/1130 Dated:23-06-2026

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Call 1)

(Through GOK e-procurement platform https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) invites tenders from eligible tenderers through GOK e-procurement platform https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in by The Member Secretary for the following work:

Name of the work: Annual Maintenance of Gardens at KSPCB Head Office "Parisara Bhavan", Regional Office Nisaraga Bhavan, Urban Eco Park, Peenya, Bengaluru and Regional Office Ramanagara (1 Year). Approx Value of the work: **Rs.28.68 Lakhs.**

All payments such as tender cost, EMD etc., shall be made in e-payment mode only.

For more details, please refer e-procurement website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/1400/CCL/2026-27 Sd/- MEMBER SECRETARY

OUR MOTTO IS TO MINIMIZE WASTE GENERATION THROUGH JUDICIOUS USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag
Koushalya Vikas Bhavan, Grama Gangothri Campus, Nagavi, Gadag-582103 E-mail : ksrdpru@gmail.com
Ph : 08372-200920, 200922

Ref: RDPRU 93 GEN 2026 Date : 27-06-2026

NOTIFICATION

The university had invited tender from eligible tenderers for supply, installation and commissioning of IT Equipments for MGRDPRU as detailed in below table on behalf of Hon'ble Governer of Karnataka as per standard Bid Document.

Details : The Supply, Installation and Commissioning of IT Equipments for MGRDPRU, Approximate amount put to tender Rs. **164.00/-** Lakhs (One Sixty Four Lakhs), EMD Rs. **3,28,000/-** (Three Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand), Place of Delivery : KVB Building, MGRDPRU, Gram Gangotri Campus, Nagavi Road, Gadag

Calendar of events for Tender is as follows :

(a) Last Date & Time for submission of Tender : **18-07-2026** Time 4:00 pm (b) Pre Bid Meeting Date : **06-07-2026** Time 11:00 am (c) Date of Sample verification : **21-07-2026** Time 11:00 am. (d) Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening : **22-07-2026** Time 11:00 am. (e) Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening : **23-07-2026** Time 11:00 am.

For more details contact the office of The Registrar, MGRDPRU, Gadag (08372-230338) during office hours.

DIPR/Gadag/143/KSMCA/2026-27 **Sd/- Registrar MGRDPR University, Gadag.**

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, C.V. Ramannagara Divsion, 8th Cross, 12th 'A' Main Road, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagara, Bengaluru-560038.

No:EE/CVR/KPPP/04/2026-27 Date: 30.06.2026

Short Term Tender Notification
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPPP only)
website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

The Executive Engineer (CV Raman Nagara), BCCC invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP/ KPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Govt. Organization for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Improvements to Roads, Drains & Footpaths and other Allied Works in Hoysalanagara Central, Cox Town. Indiranagara, Old Baiyapanahalli, Kasthurinagara, Krishnayanna Palya in Ward No. 09, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15. in C.V. Ramannagara Division (Package-1) (No of Works 04). **Estimated Cost of tender (₹ in Lakhs): 1950.00. EMD in ₹: 19,50,000/-.**
2.	Improvements to Roads, Drains & Footpaths and Other Allied Works in Kodihalli, Konena Agrahara, Jeevan Bhima Nagara, New Thippasandra, G.M. Palya, Kaggadasapura and Nagvara Palya Ward No: 14, 16, 17, 19, 20 and 21 in CV Ramannagara Division (Package-2) (No of Works 04). **Estimated Cost of tender (₹ in Lakhs): 1950.00. EMD in ₹: 19,50,000/-.**

Calendar of Events: (1) Pre bid meeting will be held on **08-07-2026 at 3:30 p.m. (2)** Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **15-07-2026 upto 4:00 p.m. (3)** Date of Opening of the Technical Bids is on **16-07-2026 after 4:30 p.m.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, C. V. Ramannagara Division, BCCC.

INDIAN RAILWAY CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of India Enterprise - Navratna)
CIN : L74899DL1999GOI101707

IRCTC Invites:-

1. Open E-Tender from reputed firms for appointment of service provider for providing Paramedic & Clinical Services for on-board passengers/guests & train accompanying staff and emergency medical assistance/emergency rescue card (ERC)/emergency responsive services for on-board passengers/guests of Maharajas' Express train for three (03) years. Pre-bid meeting: **14.07.2026**. Last Date of Submission: **24.07.2026 at 12:00 Hrs**.

2. Open E-tender 2026/IRCTC/TOURISM/ME OFFBOARD (two bid system) from reputed inbound tour operator for providing offboard Services to guests of Maharajas' Express Train for a period of four (04) year. Pre-bid meeting: **13.07.2026**. Last Date of Submission: **23.07.2026 at 12:00 Hrs**.

3. GGM/Infra EOI NO IRCTC/CO/INFR(RENT)/1/2026/Infra/CO (56610) for EOI for Hiring of furnished Accommodation for Rest/Guest House Near World Trade Centre Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi. Last Date of Physical Submission :**15.07.2026 at 15:00 Hrs**.

For details visit **www.irctc.com** for **1 to 3** & **www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC** for 1-2. Document downloading & participation can be done on **www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC** for **1-2**. For **Sl.No. 03** document can be downloaded at **www.irctc.com** and physically submitted at IRCTC's Corporate Office.

Corrigendum/addendum if any, will be published only on **www.irctc.com** and **www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC**.

Corporate Office:- IRCTC, 4th Floor, Tower – D, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029, Tel.011-35484045

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tendering Notice No. 2026–June-06 Dated : 29.06.2026

E-Tender Notice

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering), N. C. Rly Agra for and on behalf of the President of India invites "Open Tender" through on Line only (E-Tendering) for the following works. The details of the tender are as under :

SN : 1	Tender No.: 2026-June-06-01	Approx Cost Rs.: 52074897.50

Description of Work : Raising of platform, no 1 & 2/3 to high level for recoupment of shortfall in Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) at Udi More station.

SN : 2	Tender No.: 2026-June-06-02	Approx Cost Rs.: 33469993.25

Description of Work : Construction of relay huts for gate signaling at all non-interlocked level crossing (16 nos.) having TVU>10000 at remaining LC gates of Agra Division.

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website **"www.ireps.gov.in".** Tenders can only be submitted through web portal **"www.ireps.gov.in"** up to **15:00** hrs on **20.07.2026.** 1488/26 (D)

North central railways @CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer Gandhinagar Division, 2nd Floor, BBMP Complex Dhanavantri road, Bangalore-560009

No: EE/GNR/TEND/KPPP/004/2026-27 Date:30-06-2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the work mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bengaluru Central City Corporation or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

The Tender Document can be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** on payment of prescribed fee noted against each item of work (non refundable) in the form of e-Payment through e-Procurement Platform. The Tenderer should accompany a copy of the Registration Certificate valid upto the year of 2024 and shall be submitted through e-Procurement Portal.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work/Estimate Amount (in Lakhs)/EMD in Lakhs
1	Comprehensive developments of roads and drains and footpath in Nehru nagar, Dattetreya Temple, Seshadripuram, Binnypet, Bhuvaneshwarinagar, Gopalpura and surrounding areas In Gandhinagar Division, Ward No : 127. (Package-1). Estimate Cost : **Rs.3700 Lakhs,** EMD **Rs.37.00 Lakhs/-**, Stipulated Period of Completion : **09 Months.**
2	Comprehensive developments of roads and drains and footpath in Swathantrapalya, Okalipuram, Chickpet, Cottonpet and surrounding areas In Gandhinagar Division, Ward No : 123 (Package-2). Estimate Cost : **Rs.3500 Lakhs,** EMD **Rs.35.00 Lakhs/-**, Stipulated Period of Completion : **09 Months.**

Calendar of events: (1) Last date & Time for receipt of tenders : **17.07.2026 upto 16:00 Hours. (2)** Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid : **18.07.2026 at 16:30 Hours. (3)** Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid : **(Will be intimated Through Kppp).**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Gandhinagar Division, BCCC

Messaging apps liable if new features enable fraud: Govt

Cybersecurity Now Centre's Highest Priority

Word of caution comes against the backdrop of recent cyber concerns around public digital assets and govt's temporary action against Telegram during the NEET-UG re-examination

Manash Gohain & Aabhas Sharma | TNN

New Delhi: With India's public services, examinations and welfare systems moving deeper into digital platforms, the Centre has said cybersecurity is now among its "highest priority" areas, even as officials cautioned that no digital system can be declared permanently secure.

The word of caution comes against the backdrop of recent cyber concerns around public digital assets and govt's temporary action against Telegram during the NEET-UG re-examination, when the platform was restricted and its message-editing feature was disabled for a limited period to prevent fraudsters from fabricating paper leak claims.

"When you have so much digital infrastructure, data gets centralised and the risk of disruption through cyberattacks also rises," a govt official said. Cybersecurity had to be built into systems from design stage and could not be treated as an afterthought, the official added.

Govt also indicated that messaging platforms would be held responsible if new features created room for fraud. Asked about security concerns over WhatsApp's proposed username feature, which would allow users to communicate without revealing phone numbers, an official said, "It is WhatsApp that has to worry, not us."

Officials said any misuse, whether through usernames, edited messages, fake groups or impersonation, would invite action similar to that taken against Telegram during NEET. "Platforms must ensure their architecture is not used to create mischief. If it is, the response will be calibrated but firm," an official said. A WhatsApp spokesperson told TOI that the proposed username feature is designed to enhance user privacy rather than reduce security, stressing that the app remains "primarily a private messaging app that people use to connect with friends and family." Company said it has built automated protections to detect and remove impersonation and abuse.

"We limit how many new people any account can contact through usernames and block repeated attempts to guess someone's username key," the spokesperson said.

Addressing concerns over misuse of public names, the spokesperson said WhatsApp has built multiple safeguards into the system. "We held high-value usernames... so no one else can take them," the spokesperson said. Public figures who choose not to use the same username as on Facebook or Instagram will still have those names reserved to prevent misuse, company said.

Existing Facebook and Instagram usernames are also being reserved for their owners for a limited period, while the "highest-profile names — think public figures, govt entities, celebrities — are held so they can only ever be claimed by their legitimate owners," the spokesperson said.

CBSE asks schools to set up cyber clubs, push 2.5-hr course

Times News Network

New Delhi: CBSE-affiliated schools have been asked to encourage students, teachers and parents to take a 2.5-hour cyber hygiene certificate course and set up cyber clubs to conduct monthly awareness activities, as part of a nationwide cyber safety campaign launched by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the home ministry.

The board said the initiative is aimed at strengthening cybercrime awareness and promoting cyber hygiene among students, teachers and parents at a time when children's increasing use of digital platforms has exposed them to online risks. These include online grooming, cyberbullying, identity theft and online harassment, besides financial cyberfrauds.

Schools have also been advised to circulate a cyber safety pledge among students for signature by parents and submission to the school. The pledge focuses on safe online practices, responsible use of social media and basic cyber hygiene.

CBSE has asked schools to display cyber awareness advisories on parent portals, share a cybercrime awareness comic book prepared by MHA, encourage students and parents to follow "Cyberdost" on social media and use interactive awareness material such as the cyber awareness "Snake & Ladder" game.

Gen Dhiraj Seth takes over as 31st Chief of Army staff

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New Army chief Gen Dhiraj Seth

New Delhi: General Dhiraj Seth on Tuesday became the first officer from Armoured Corps after 1997 to take over as the 31st Chief of the Army Staff from General Upendra Dwivedi, who superannuated after more than four decades of distinguished service to the nation. Before Gen Seth, Gen Shankar Roy Chowdhary was also from the Armoured Corps who led the Army and retired in 1997.

The change of command was marked with a ceremony at South Block Lawns in New Delhi, where Gen Dwivedi was given a special send-off. In his last speech as Army chief on Tuesday, Gen Dwivedi said "wars will be more joint, integrated and theatre-oriented in future", therefore the direction of the armed forces is clear "to see together, take decisions together and take actions together". "My journey from the Sainik School to this position has been unforgettable. Serving in the Indian Army has been the greatest privilege of my life," Gen Dwivedi said.

Gen Seth, a straight talker, is also the officer who commanded South Western Command and Southern Command, earning the rare distinction of commanding two operational Army Commands and providing strategic oversight across critical theatres for over a period of two and half years. His key priorities as Army chief will be on accelerating force modernisation, triservice synergy, enhancing operational readiness along borders, and integrating advanced technologies like AI, drones, and cyber resilience into a self-reliant, future-ready force.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, Seth was commissioned into the Armoured Corps in Dec 1986. Over a distinguished military career, he has had extensive experience across the operational, strategic, capability development and institutional domains, contributing significantly to the Indian Army's combat effectiveness.

The General Officer has commanded at every level in diverse operational environments. His command assignments include an Armoured Regiment in the Desert Sector, an Armoured Brigade in the western theatre, and a counter-insurgency force in J&K.

Accused duo rehearsed murder on Pune hill, say police

Pune: Investigation into the murder of realtor Ketan Agarwal (25) revealed that his fiancée, Siya Goyal, and her boyfriend Chetan Chaudhary had allegedly rehearsed the crime on a hill near Market Yard before pushing Agarwal off a cliff at Lohagad Fort on June 18, police said Tuesday.

LOHAGAD KILLING

During custodial interrogation, the accused duo confessed to having practised the act at the hill, a Pune Rural Police officer said. "We will identify the site where the rehearsal took place and conduct a spot panchnama," he said.

Police had initially registered Agarwal's death as accidental. The case later took a turn when investigators uncovered the involvement of Goyal and Chaudhary. Both were subsequently arrested and are in police custody. TNN

SPOTLIGHT

AsteraLabs.

AI's High-Speed Future, Engineered in India

Astera Labs expands to Hyderabad and Ahmedabad with high-impact semiconductor roles that help power the leading edge of AI infrastructure

Astera Labs, a global leader in purpose-built connectivity solutions for AI infrastructure, is expanding in India with two new engineering centres in Hyderabad and Ahmedabad.

These new sites build on the company's Bengaluru hub (established in 2024) and strengthen India's role as a cornerstone of Astera Labs' global engineering strategy. More importantly, they create opportunities for semiconductor engineers who want to work on connectivity silicon, increasingly seen as central to the performance of modern AI infrastructure.

Astera Labs develops infrastructure products that enable AI platforms and hyperscale data centres to move data faster, scale efficiently, and perform reliably under extreme demands. Its portfolio includes PCIe retimers, CXL memory controllers, Ethernet smart cable modules, fabric switches, and other connectivity solutions used by leading cloud and AI companies worldwide.

The two new India facilities target specialised capabilities aligned with their regions' deep talent pools. Hyderabad will serve as a centre of excellence for physical design, leveraging the city's strong semiconductor back-end workforce. Ahmedabad will contribute design verification and design-for-test as well as additional physical design, backed by ties to local chip design services and an established base of technical talent from institutions across Gujarat and western India.

This expansion reflects Astera Labs' belief that India is not just a source of talent but a strategic development centre with a mission to drive innovation. These new facilities will contribute directly to the company's next generation of products and will make India its second-largest design centre, with growth expected to continue.

Astera Labs is actively hiring across Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, and Bengaluru for roles in physical design, verification, DFT, and silicon bring-up. For engineers looking to work on real-world silicon challenges with global impact, this is a chance to help shape infrastructure at the heart of AI's future.

For more details visit www.asteralabs.com/careers

An initiative of Astera Labs. BCCL does not endorse and is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein. Readers should seek appropriate professional advice before taking any decision.

AI Your Way

Purpose-Built Rack-Scale Connectivity Platform

"India will be central to the next era of AI infrastructure development. These are not satellite offices. They are engineering centres that contribute directly to the products our customers depend on."

Dr Shivananda R Koteshwar,
SVP, Managing Director,
India Operations, Astera Labs

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large that FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. has decided to conduct Auction of Gold ornaments belonging to accounts (mentioned below) which are NPA (Non-performing Asset) or margin breach account/s or any account/s falling into the loan recall clause as specified in the **terms & condition** of the Loan. The Auction would be held as per the schedule provided below:

District auction date : 29/07/2026	Online auction date : 31/07/2026

Base Branch - Anekal - Contact : 7795228669, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00880**010865**, 010898, 010904, 010920, 010943, 010944, 010959, 010961, 010966, 010969, 010982, 010983, 010989, 011002, 011039, 011041, 011107 Base Branch - Arakalgud - Contact : 9964260350, District - HASSAN MARKET - Contact : 8970429398, FEDGL00360**020371**, 020373, 020491, 020492, 020518, 020521, 020522, 020524, 020529, 020530, 020531, 020532, 020536, 020541, 020556, 020567, 020568, 020607, 020610, 020618, 020620, 020621, 020633, 020634, 020639, 020649, 020652, 020674, 020675, 020682, 020686, 020690, 020691, 020695, 020702, 020703, 020727, 020728, 020729, 020731, 020752, 020758, 020759, 020770, 020776, 020830, 020838, FEDBD00360**000029**, 000037 Base Branch - Arasikere - Contact : 9620276545, District - HASSAN MARKET - Contact : 8970429398, FEDGL04140**009286**, 009316, 009354, 009376, 009387, 009412, 009426, 009432, 009433, 009442, 009443, 009473, 009474, 009475, 009476, 009477, 009478, 009481, 009490, 009495, 009505, 009509, 009517, 009524, FEDBD04140000016 Base Branch - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL01030**024041**, 024061, 024062, 024080, 024093, 024109, 024110, 024116, 024117, 024119, 024120, 024123, 024126, 024129, 024146, 024165, 024195, 024196, 024198, 024207, 024215, 024216, 024220, 024230, 024232, 024237, 024240, 024248, 024259, 024261, 024262, 024263, 024271, 024272, 024273, 024278, 024279, 024292, 024301, 024316, 024324, 024330, 024332, 024335, 024336, 024343, 024344, 024347, 024353, 024354, 024356, 024358, 024360, 024365, 024380, 024382, 024383, 024392, 024396, 024397, 024410, 024418, 024419, 024420, 024432, 024433, 024436, 024438, 024439, 024441, 024450, 024466, 024467, 024468, 024471, 024474, FEDBD01030000581, 000594, 000612, 000613, 000620, 000626, 000627, 000630, 000636, 000638, 000642, 000647, 000658 Base Branch - BASAVESHWARA NAGAR - Contact : 9740831809, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00110**014668**, 014669, 014679, 014708, 014722, 014759, 014768, FEDBD00110**000109**, 000111, 000112Base Branch - BELGAUM - Contact : 9538166084, District - BELGAUM - Contact : 9538166084, FEDGL01360**011201**, 011265, 011338, 011340, 011358, 011359, 011360, 011363, 011374, 011376, 011382, 011384, 011389, 011392, 011398, 011399, 011400, 011401, 011405, 011407, 011410, 011411, 011429, 011430, 011440, 011441, 011442, 011443, 011444, 011445, 011446, 011447, 011448, 011449, 011457, 011463, 011469, 011470, 011471, 011473, 011474, 011475, 011476, 011477, 011504, FEDBD01360000069, 000076 Base Branch - BELUR - Contact : 9380453339, District - HASSAN MARKET - Contact : 8970429398, FEDGL01590**016101**, 016127, 016129, 016153, 016157, 016171, 016187, 016205, 016208, 016211, 016236, 016237, 016245, 016246, 016247, 016248, 016257, 016260, 016298, 016325, 016334, 016359, 016362, 016364, FEDBD01590000186, 000188, 000191Base Branch - BOMMANAHALLI - Contact : 9449523437, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00140**010983**, 010984, 010985, 011003, 011004, 011063, 011064, 011088 Base Branch - BTM LAYOUT - Contact : 9980764782, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00030**009105**, 009114, 009146, 009153, 009163, 009164, 009167, 009168, 009172, 009178, 009179, 009181, 009185, 009186, 009190, 009191, 009192, 009193, 009196, 009197, 009198, 009201, 009202, 009203, 009204, 009207, 009209, 009210, 009218, 009219, 009234, 009237, 009241, 009243, 009244, 009245, 009252, 009258, 009259, 009263, 009268, 009275, 009276, FEDBD00030**000138**, 000139, 000142, 000145, 000152, 000153, 000155, 000156Base Branch - BYADGI - Contact : 8970590276, District - RANEBENNUR - Contact : 8904013982, FEDGL00510**017706**, 017723, 017725, 017726, 017727, 017748, 017832, 017833, 017861, 017880, 017883, FEDBD00510**000025**, 000027 Base Branch - Caltex Circle - Contact : 9900291944, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL01020**022711**, 022714, 022715, 022764, 022793, 022812, 022815, 022822, 022837, 022839, 022853, 022858, 022868, 022871, 022872, 022901, 022911, 022915, 022916, 022917, 022924, 022925, 022941, 022951, 022957, 022959, 022971, 022975, 022977, 022978, 022997, 023028, 023030, 023060, 023065, 023066, 023072, 023073, 023075, 023076, 023077, 023088, 023089, 023090, 023091, 023092, 023093, 023098, 023114, FEDDS01020000116, FEDBD01020000312, 000325, 000326, 000329, 000330, 000331, 000333, 000334, 000336, 000343, 000345, 000346, 000347 Base Branch - Car Street Bellary - Contact : 9535205038, District - CAR STREET BELLARY - Contact : 9535205038, FEDGL00920**008298**, 008309, 008366, 008367, 008370, 008375, 008380, 008385, 008388, 008396, 008397, 008412, 008413, 008414, 008415, 008416, 008417, 008419, 008423, 008426, 008428, 008431, 008433, 008462, 008463, 008464, 008466, 008487, 008499, 008500, 008501, 008510, 008511, 008524, 008526, 008527, 008530, FEDBD00920**000069** Base Branch - CHANNAPATNA - Contact : 9743172738, District - RAMANAGARA - Contact : 8197884697, FEDGL01760**024161**, 024194, 024195, 024211, 024213, 024229, 024232, 024234, 024245, 024251, 024255, 024265, 024266, 024268, 024282, 024312, 024315, 024337, 024353, 024365, FEDBD01760000096, 000099 Base Branch - CHENRAYAPATNA - Contact : 9739489738, District - HASSAN MARKET - Contact : 8970429398, FEDGL01580029179, 029180, 029244, 029270, 029295, 029318, 029320, 029321, 029327, FEDBD01580000157, 000171 Base Branch - Chikkabalapura - Contact : 8747906384, District - Chikkabalapura - Contact : 8747906384, FEDGL05930000551, 000561, 000601, 000606, 000608, 000616, 000628, 000630, 000638, 000645, 000648, 000653, 000663, 000667, 000680, 000681, 000683, 000685, 000687, 000688, 000690, 000703, 000705, 000708, 000710, 000711, 000712, 000727, 000736, 000767, FEDBD05930000098, 000101, 000102, 000110, 000116, 000118, 000133, 00013 Base Branch - CHIKKAMAGALUR - Contact : 9164264697, District - CHIKKAMAGALUR - Contact : 9164264697, FEDGL00210012039, 012077, 012078, 012079, 012083, 012085, 012100, 012101, 012112, 012114, 012157, 012187, FEDBD00210**000032** Base Branch - DABASAPETE - Contact : 9980472761, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL05460002813, 002824, 002826, 002829, 002838, 002842, 002844, 002845, 002851, 002852, 002857, 002862, 002871, 002873, 002877, 002878, 002882, 002895, 002902, 002905, 002917, 002926, 002928, 002939, 002940, 002943, 002944, 002946, 002952, 002955, 002960, 002972, 002973, 002978, 002979, 002981, 002992, 002996, 002997, 003000, 003009, 003010, 003011, 003012, 003014, 003016, 003030, 003035, 003039, 003050, 003053, 003058, 003067, 003071, 003074, 003083, 003085, 003106, 003137, 003143, FEDBD05460000126, 000129, 000135, 000136, 000140, 000141, 000144, 000145, 000147, 000148, 000149 Base Branch - DAVANGERE - Contact : 9110855606, District - DAVANGERE - Contact : 9110855606, FEDGL02290012785, 012811, 012812, 012815, 012839, 012852, 012855, 012870, 012875, 012886, 012889, 012902, 012914, 012940, 012953, 012954, 012955, FEDBD02290000086, 000087Base Branch - dharwad - Contact : 8152913405, District - DHARWAD - Contact : 8152913405, FEDGL02330010359, 010426, 010448, 010460, 010465, 010518, 010519, 010530, FEDBD02330000029, 000030, 000032, 000035, 000039, 000040, 000041, 000043, 000044 Base Branch - Doddaballapur - Contact : 9731011430, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL05940000363, 000382, 000384, 000475, 000478, 000484, 000490, FEDBD05940000095, 000096, 000104, 000105, 000106, 000109, 000110, 000111, 000113 Base Branch - Gadag - Contact : 9902373905, District - Gadag - Contact : 9902373905, FEDGL04200009966, 009970, 009971, 009972, 009982, 009984, 009996, 010006, 010019, 010020, 010053, 010054, 010055, 010056, 010057, 010093, 010112, 010114, 010117, 010118, 010172 Base Branch - Gangavathi - Contact : 9972317836, District - GANGAVATHI - Contact : 9972317836, FEDGL00940009757, 009782, 009783 Base Branch - Gubbi - Contact : 7760812077, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL00460025570, 025604, 025635, 025666, 025670, 025677, 025695, 025696, 025702, 025706, 025714, 025715, 025718, 025723, 025736, 025744, 025745, 025750, 025760, 025775, 025796, 025798, 025800, 025811, 025812, 025819, 025820, 025840, 025847, 025857, 025860, 025861, 025863, 025882, 025883, 025898, 025905, 025906, 025909, 025921, 025927, 025930, 025934, 025935, 025936, 025937, 025946, 025954, 025962, 025971, 025974, 025977, 025978, 025992, 025993, 026021, 026025, 026056, 026074, 026091, 026110, FEDBD00460**000049** Base Branch - Gundalpete - Contact : 9916977750, District - Gundalpete - Contact : 9916977750, FEDGL03830009481, 009500, 009501, 009504Base Branch - H D Kote - Contact : 8147199881, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL00580015825, 015854, 015924, 015925, 015928, 015931, 015960, 015976, 016055 Base Branch - Hagaribommanhalli - Contact : 8197621828, District - HOSPET - Contact : 9743956995, FEDGL01000016892, 016957, 016958, 017010, 017022, 017034, 017052, 017054, 017095, 017101, 017127, 017137, 017174, 017194, 017195, 017210, 017231, 017234, 017235, 017239, 017240, 017242, FEDBD01000000563, 000586, 000587 Base Branch - HANSUR - Contact : 9741533219, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL01620020519, 020520, 020521, 020522, 020535, 020540, 020541, 020559, 020568, 020602, 020611Base Branch - Harappanahalli - Contact : 9945998329, District - DAVANGERE - Contact : 9110855606, FEDGL01040015548, 015641, 015657, 015659, 015660, 015683, 015703, 015749, 015750, 015753, 015772, FEDBD01040000180 Base Branch - HARIHAR - Contact : 8147533256, District - DAVANGERE - Contact : 9110855606, FEDGL00220019837, 019851, 019855, 019856, 019902, 019921, 019936, 019938, 019945, 019960, 019962, 019963, 019979, 019980, 020005, 020022, 020023, 020039, 020072, 020107, 020108, FEDBD00220**000334**, 000343, 000344, 000347, 000348, 000349, 000351, 000352, 000354 Base Branch - HASSAN MARKET - Contact : 8970429398, District - HASSAN MARKET - Contact : 8970429398, FEDGL01570022480, 022481, 022510, 022511, 022582, 022583, 022599, 022623, 022657, 022663, 022672, 022675, 022686, 022693, 022694, 022695, 022701, 022702, 022725, 022727, 022730, 022745, 022752, 022757, 022783, 022784, 022787, 022816, 022875, 022876, 022879, 022887, 022898, 022913, FEDDS01570000320, FEDBD01570000538, 000543, 000545, 000546 Base Branch - HAVERI - Contact : 8880914476, District - RANEBENNUR - Contact : 8904013982, FEDGL01810016414, 016465, 016472, 016473, 016474, 016475, 016491, 016512, 016514, 016515, 016516, 016518, 016520, 016529, 016537, 016539, 016547, 016575, 016599, 016622, 016651, 016658, FEDBD01810000031, 000032 Base Branch - HENNUR - Contact : 8123668156, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00150007592, 007632, 007641, 007646, 007657, 007658, 007677, 007678, 007679, 007681, 007690, 007693, 007694, 007729 Base Branch - Hiriyur - Contact : 9901312488, District - Hosadurga - Contact : 8105000953, FEDGL05920000515, 000549, 000553, 000582, 000589, 000590, 000610, 000611, 000617, 000623, 000631, 000649, 000651, 000653, 000654, FEDBD05920000124, 000125, 000127, 000129, 000140, 000144, 000146, 000147, 000159, 000166 Base Branch - Holenarsipura - Contact : 9591033235, District - HASSAN MARKET - Contact : 8970429398, FEDGL00590030763, 030799, 030801, 030802, 030807, 030813, 030840, 030855, 030859, 030860, 030882, 030884, 030886, 030906, 030913, 030914, 030920, 030921, 030922, 030925, 030930, 030949, 030964, 030983, 030986, 030991, 030992, 030993, 031000, 031007, 031009, 031021, 031022, 031028, 031036, 031044, 031045, 031060, 031065, 031066, 031067, 031070, 031072, 031073, 031074, 031076, 031078, 031107, 031110, 031116, 031126, 031162, 031163, FEDDS00590000308, 000309, 000311, FEDBD00590**000113** Base Branch - HOSA ROAD - Contact : 9071990440, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00020020613, 020695, 020697, 020733, 020734, 020742, 020793, 020802, 020804, 020811, FEDBD00020**000893**, 000894, 000933 Base Branch - Hosadurga - Contact : 8105000953, District - Hosadurga - Contact : 8105000953, FEDGL04120012081, 012131, 012132, 012133, 012140, 012147, 012161, 012162, 012163, 012164, 012165, 012166, 012174, 012175, 012188, 012194, 012195, 012198, 012209, 012247, 012248, 012252, 012255, 012256, 012258, 012259, 012267, 012271, 012272, 012273, 012275, 012279, 012284, 012285, 012286, 012287, 012288, 012290, 012303, 012311, 012320, 012323, 012330, 012332, 012345, 012346, 012351, 012360, 012361, 012362, 012363, 012382, 012384, 012400, 012404, 012438, 012439, 012441, 012442, 012463, 012468, 012469, FEDBD04120000020, 000022 Base Branch - Hospet - Contact : 9743956995, District - HOSPET - Contact : 9743956995, FEDGL00990014137, 014180, 014183, 014195, 014207, 014221, 014231, 014237, 014252, 014262, 014263, 014265, 014266, 014271, 014272, 014273, 014282, 014283, 014284, 014286, 014295, 014350, 014357, 014358, 014359, 014368, 014380, 014381, 014394, 014395, 014398, 014420, FEDBD00990**000325**, 000329, 000332, 000333, 000335, 000336, 000337 Base Branch - HULIYAR - Contact : 9353636036, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL05340001997, 002030, 002052, 002053, 002060, 002071, 002103, 002105, 002124, 002127, 002177, FEDBD05340000022 Base Branch - JEEVAN BHEEMA NAGAR - Contact : 9901734377, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00190006327, 006330, 006331, 006357, 006358, 006359, 006362, 006363, 006398, 006405, 006442 Base Branch - K R NAGAR - Contact : 9901175713, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL01610017313, 017355, 017390, 017391, 017396, 017402, 017404, 017405, 017406, 017416, 017417, 017475, 017484, 017493, 017494, 017500, 017507, 017524, 017540, FEDBD01610000033, 000037 Base Branch - K R Pete - Contact : 9611852104, District - MANDYA - Contact : 8453194687, FEDGL00630013889, 013945, 013946, 013962, 013985, 014004, 014027, 014028, 014030, 014032, 014037, 014039, 014043, 014060, 014063, 014071, 014089, 014096, 014145, 014169, 014177, FEDBD00630**000010** Base Branch - K R PURAM - Contact : 8150839437, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00120017988, 018050, 018070, 018072, 018077, 018080, 018083, 018095, 018134, 018137, 018170, 018178, 018193, 018202, 018204, 018229, FEDDS00120000418, 000419, 000422 Base Branch - K R ROAD - Contact : 7829541516, District - DAVANGERE - Contact : 9110855606, FEDGL00370008854, 008863, 008864, 008866, 008867, 008880, 008885, 008917, 008936, 008940, 008943, 008944, 008952, 008960, FEDDS00370000212, 000214, 000215, 000216, FEDBD00370**000208**, 000210 Base Branch - Kadur - Contact : 9844224685, District - CHIKKAMAGALUR - Contact : 9164264697, FEDGL04870009026, 009040, 009056, 009085, 009100, 009104, 009109, 009133, 009150, 009166, 009167, 009168, 009203, 009229, 009244, 009255, 009264, 009265, 009296, 009303, FEDBD04870000059, 000063, 000072, 000074, 000075, 000076, 000077 Base Branch - KAMMANAHALLI - Contact : 8310471800, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00050008118, 008139, 008141, 008152, 008161, 008167, 008189, 008201, 008202, 008216, 008225, 008228, 008229, 008237 Base Branch - Kampli - Contact : 6361077968, District - CAR STREET BELLARY - Contact : 9535205038, FEDGL00950014227, 014251, 014252, 014277, 014321, 014335, 014345, 014383, FEDBD00950**000244**, 000250 Base Branch - Kanakapura - Contact : 9986541927, District - RAMANAGARA - Contact : 8197884697, FEDGL05900000262, 000266, 000283, 000298, 000305 Base Branch - Kappogal Road Bellary - Contact : 9663139007, District - CAR STREET BELLARY - Contact : 9535205038, FEDGL00930008813, 008850, 008857, 008860, 008887, 008913, 008915, 008961, 008969, 008972, 008978, 008979, 008981, 008986, 009006, 009007, 009025, 009055, 009057, 009063, 009066, 009077, 009089, 009090, 009091, 009092, 009101, 009102, 009104, 009109, 009112, 009114, 009125, FEDBD00930**000101**, 000102, 000103, 000105, 000107, 000109, 000113, 000117, 000122, 000126, 000127 Base Branch - Kengeri - Contact : 7483063537, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL05910000329, 000352, 000360, 000361, 000388 Base Branch - KOPIKAR ROAD - Contact : 8792207075, District - DHARWAD - Contact : 8152913405, FEDGL01550012925, 012937, 012948, 012954, 012965, 012966, 012977, 012984, 012990, 012991, 013001, 013007, 013013, 013014, 013047, 013091, 013118, 013132, 013134, 013136, 013143, 013145, 013149, FEDBD01550000115 Base Branch - Koppal - Contact : 9980073958, District - GANGAVATHI - Contact : 9972317836, FEDGL04030007646, 007657, 007658, 007689, 007765, 007791, 007792, 007793, 007799, 007800, 007864, 007871, 007873, 007874, 007875, 007876, 007892, FEDBD04030000459 Base Branch - Kudligi - Contact : 7760491423, District - HOSPET - Contact : 9743956995, FEDGL04040013845, 013855, 013899, 013904, 013918, 013946, 013956, 013967, 013982, 013994, 013998, 014001, 014002, 014006, 014071, 014131, 014211, FEDBD04040000707, 000708, 000718, 000722, 000737, 000740, 000742 Base Branch - KUnigal - Contact : 9738833176, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL01210018579, 018583, 018588, 018620, 018625, 018627, 018628, 018632, 018690, 018693, 018697, 018702, 018708, 018715, 018717, 018728, 018737, 018742, 018781, 018807, 018814, 018824, 018825, 018851, 018874, 018877, 018879, 018883, 018898, 018913, 018917, 018925, 018935, 018940, 018957, 018969, 018972, 018981, FEDBD01210000035, 000036, 000037, 000038, 000039, 000040, 000046, 000047 Base Branch - KUSHTAGI - Contact : 9743424806, District - KUSHTAGI - Contact : 9743424806, FEDGL07260000010, 000011, FEDBD07260000001 Base Branch - Laxmeshwara - Contact : 9902888271, District - Gadag - Contact : 9902373905, FEDGL04070005815, 005845, 005848, 005882, 005896 Base Branch - Madhugiri - Contact : 9972981737, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL03930017465, 017482, 017488, 017562, 017638, 017658, 017662, 017667, 017668, 017669, 017670, 017672, 017673, 017674, 017677, 017679, 017705, 017710, 017715, 017746, 017750, 017756, 017760, 017765, 017781, 017787, 017803, 017805, 017832, 017834, 017835, 017837, 017844, 017850, 017915, 017916, 017928, 017944, FEDBD03930000080, 000081, 000083 Base Branch - Malavalli - Contact : 8867816782, District - Mandya - Contact : 8453194687, FEDGL03650010984, 010985, 011043, 011044, 011056, 011057, 011088, 011089, 011090, 011091, 011092, 011160, 011208, FEDBD03650000074 Base Branch - Malebennur - Contact : 8884276416, District - DAVANGERE - Contact : 9110855606, FEDGL00620016409, 016414, 016452, 016460, 016463, 016464, 016465, 016497, 016500, 016523, 016541, 016542, 016543, 016569, FEDBD00620**000188** Base Branch - MANDIMOHALLA - Contact : 9945657838, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL01740014535, 014557, 014558, 014575, 014628, 014645, 014648, FEDBD01740000063 Base Branch - MANDYA - Contact : 8453194687, District - MANDYA - Contact : 8453194687, FEDGL01630012135, 012148, 012149, 012156, 012160, 012164, 012179, 012188, 012190, 012191, 012210, 012215, 012221, 012229, 012230, 012240, 012241, 012246, 012254, 012257, 012258, 012259, 012260, 012262, 012291, 012302, 012305, 012307, 012311, 012317, 012318, 012323, 012332, 012334, 012341, 012346, 012351, 012376, 012383, 012395, FEDBD01630000071, 000073, 000074 Base Branch - Mundargi - Contact : 9886453768, District - Gadag - Contact : 9902373905, FEDGL00640016943, 017036, 017054, 017133, 017197, 017201, 017204, 017206, 017223 Base Branch - Nagarbhavi - Contact : 7259702483, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00310009894, 009899, 009915, 009942, 009946, 009947, 009997, 009998, 009999 Base Branch - NANJANGODE - Contact : 9611312789, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL01600020798, 020992, 020993, 021027, 021053, 021056, 021057, 021064, 021065, 021110, 021111, 021129, 021199, FEDBD01600000017 Base Branch - Nelamangala - Contact : 9108850892, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL03920007004, 007063, 007064, 007137, 007142, 007143, 007144, 007153, 007162, 007170, 007174, 007179, 007204, 007207, 007215, 007258, 007290, 007291 Base Branch - Pavagada - Contact : 9448386998, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL03770018950, 018951, 018960, 018985, 018986, 019023, 019038, 019039, 019040, 019053, 019058, 019060, 019062, 019064, 019065, 019084, 019095, 019097, 019100, 019101, 019102, 019108, 019133, 019144, 019147, 019150, 019152, 019153, 019154, 019170, 019173, 019177, 019184, 019195, 019198, 019202, 019203, 019205, 019208, 019219, 019249, 019252, 019253, 019256, 019260, 019264, 019265, 019266, 019275, 019300, 019308, 019325, 019329, 019330, 019331, 019333, 019379, 019399, 019421, 019446, 019448, 019450, 019451, 019454, 019463, 019477, 019487, 019488, FEDBD03770000034, 000037, 000039 Base Branch - Peenya - Contact : 9008887975, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL05950000230, 000231, 000312, FEDBD05950000021 Base Branch - Periapatna - Contact : 9449955714, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL00440015591, 015656, 015657, 015667, 015668, 015698, 015701, 015714, 015730, 015735, 015736, 015748, 015751, 015754, 015757, 015767, 015768, 015769, 015771, 015792, 015818, 015821, 015857, 015865, 015886, 015907, 015918, 015922, 015955, 015957, FEDBD00440**000080**, 000083 Base Branch - RAJAJI NAGAR - Contact : 7892077716, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00040007221, 007255, 007257, 007258, 007259, 007260, 007262, 007263, 007264, 007286, 007290, 007307, 007308, 007334, 007342, 007353, 007354, FEDDS00040000804, 000805, FEDBD00040**000264**, 000266, 000267, 000268, 000269 Base Branch - Ramamurthy Nagar - Contact : 9379513202, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00350005439, 005462, 005511, 005522, 005524, 005532, 005549, 005575, FEDDS00350000139, 000140, FEDBD00350**000163**, 000166, 000179, 000185, 000186, 000187 Base Branch - RAMANAGARA - Contact : 8197884697, District - RAMANAGARA - Contact : 8197884697, FEDGL01800030178, 030190, 030191, 030192, 030220, 030244, 030246, 030248, 030318, 030340, 030362, 030365, 030366, 030371, 030377, 030386, FEDBD01800000297, 000298, 000306 Base Branch - RAMASWAMY CIRCLE - Contact : 9620136356, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL01730010693, 010702, 010712, 010734, 010743, 010745, 010748, 010764, 010770, 010788, 010790, 010793, 010797, 010798, 010799, 010800, 010801, 010802, 010807, 010808, 010814, 010821, 010854, FEDBD01730000062, 000065, 000068, 000070, 000071, 000072, 000073, 000074, 000075 Base Branch - RANEBENNUR - Contact : 8904013982, District - RANEBENNUR - Contact : 8904013982, FEDGL02320015345, 015346, 015347, 015349, 015355, 015358, 015401 Base Branch - SHIMOGA - Contact : 9513242321, District - SHIMOGA - Contact : 9513242321, FEDGL01830016426, 016443, 016461, 016477, 016479, 016482, 016483, 016484, 016487, 016488, 016490, 016496, 016501, 016511, 016522, 016529, 016533, 016534, 016535, 016546, 016553, 016557, 016558, 016559, 016571, 016572, 016581, 016582, 016583, 016586, 016592, 016597, 016598, 016599, 016600, 016603, 016604, 016624, 016632, 016633, 016635, 016636, 016638, 016642, 016644 Base Branch - Sindhanur - Contact : 8880890891, District - Sindhanur - Contact : 8880890891, FEDGL04610008466, 008543, 008628, 008659, 008677, 008682, 008712, 008787, 008803, FEDBD04610000560, 000561 Base Branch - Sira - Contact : 9686864110, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL03760019147, 019148, 019286, 019290, 019291, 019334, 019341, 019353, 019354, 019355, 019365, 019366, 019377, 019378, 019379, 019380, 019381, 019385, 019396, 019398, 019399, 019402, 019403, 019411, 019413, 019424, 019426, 019427, 019428, 019429, 019472, 019473, 019474, 019475, 019480, 019482, 019492, 019494, 019495, 019496, 019500, 019502, 019512, 019521, 019522, 019523, 019525, 019526, 019527, 019530, 019531, 019532, 019538, 019547, 019555, 019558, 019637, 019638, 019653, 019654, 019655, 019663, 019694, 019695, 019702, 019707, 019708, 019714, 019715, 019716, 019717, 019718, 019719, 019723, 019727, 019728, 019729, 019739, 019744, 019745, 019760, 019761, 019762, 019763, 019764, 019766, 019767, 019768, FEDBD03760000523, 000532, 000537, 000542, 000543, 000549, 000550, 000551, 000554, 000557, 000559, 000560, 000566, 000569 Base Branch - SIRSI - Contact : 9845952878, District - SIRSI - Contact : 9845952878, FEDGL01930010772, 010794, 010798, 010799, 010810, 010860 Base Branch - Srinivasa Nagar - Contact : 9480888960, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00890008517, 008535, 008536, 008537, 008541, 008542, 008543, 008544, 008553, 008554, 008555, 008556, 008560, 008563, 008566, 008573, 008574, 008575, 008580, 008587, 008588, 008589, 008592, 008600, 008601, 008602, 008604, 008608, 008611, 008613, 008619, 008622, 008625, 008626, 008633, 008640, 008647, 008648, 008665, 008668, 008671, 008672, 008674, 008681, 008696, FEDBD00890**000364** Base Branch - SULTHANPLYA - Contact : 9353708159, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00130010789, 010810, 010812, 010819, 010820, 010824, 010828, 010832, 010839, 010842, 010843, 010852, 010862, 010875, 010891, 010906, 010945, 010954, 010960, 010972, 010973, FEDBD00130**000262** Base Branch - T NARASIPURA - Contact : 9986815186, District - Ramaswamy Circle - Contact : 9620136356, FEDGL05510**002451**, 002458, 002460, 002474, 002489, 002493, 002494, 002495, 002496, 002498, 002515, 002517, 002527, 002535, 002537, 002541, 002546, 002547, 002548, 002564, 002565, 002566, 002567, 002568, 002569, 002570, 002574, 002576, 002577, 002578, 002581, 002582, 002596, 002610, 002611, 002617, 002618, 002619, 002623, 002652, 002657, 002658, 002659, 002671, 002673, 002681, 002682, 002698, 002721, 002722, 002728, 002729, 002731, 002732, FEDBD05510**000059**, 000060, 000061, 000064, 000070 Base Branch - TALAGHATTAPURA - Contact : 8892582201, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL05500**001233**, 001234, 001236, 001237, 001239, 001240, 001242, 001245, 001246, 001247, 001249, 001252, 001253, 001288, FEDBD05500**000332** Base Branch - Tarikere - Contact : 9945524645, District - CHIKKAMAGALUR - Contact : 9164264697, FEDGL04150**008007**, 008024, 008030, 008036, 008039, 008047, 008066, 008067, 008071, 008072, 008102, 008104, 008106, 008107, 008108, 008127, 008133, 008141, 008143, 008151, 008157, 008159, 008160, 008167, 008168, 008171, 008172, 008177, 008186, 008193, 008203, 008216, 008217, 008218, 008221, 008222, 008223, 008231, 008233, 008234, 008239, 008240, 008241, 008242, 008243, 008252, 008256, 008257, 008258, 008259, 008260, 008263, 008264, 008265, 008266, 008267, 008276, 008277, FEDBD04150000038, 000039, 000047, 000048 Base Branch - Tiptur - Contact : 9739894909, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL00470**016160**, 016278, 016310, 016311, 016331, 016332, 016366, 016371, 016372, 016373, 016375, 016376, 016378, 016404, 016416, 016417, 016425, 016426, 016427, 016465, 016466, 016483, 016496, 016524, 016530, 016531, 016541, 016543, 016544, 016553, 016580, FEDBD00470**000042**, 000045 Base Branch - Turuvekere - Contact : 9964345178, District - B H Road - Contact : 8904344610, FEDGL03860**012934**, 012947, 012963, 012993, 012994, 013001, 013004, 013010, 013011, 013023, 013037, 013053, 013054, 013056, 013061, 013066, 013067, 013078, 013079, 013080, 013093, 013099, 013128, 013153, 013157, 013158, 013159, 013166, 013239, 013258, 013259, 013260, 013289, 013301 Base Branch - Vijayanagar - RPC Layout - Contact : 6363328511, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL05890000274, 000294, 000319, FEDBD05890000033, 000034 Base Branch - Yeshwantpur - Contact : 9844851400, District - BTM Layout - Contact : 9980764782, FEDGL00340009363, 009364, 009376, 009377, 009378, 009379, 009380, 009381, 009382, 009383, 009386, 009390, 009398, 009399, 009404, 009435, 009440, 009444, 009445, 009493, 009495, 009496, 009501, 009502, FEDBD00340**000345**, 000352, 000354, 000357

Change in Venue or Date, if any, will be displayed on our Website https://www.fedfina.com/gold-loan/special-sections/auction-venue/. Customer who want to release their ornaments shall visit any of the above branch/es or contact at the number mentioned above on/or before auction Date subject to the terms and condition applicable. Auction will be conducted at respective Districts. In case the auction does not get completed on the given date due to any reasons, the auction in respect thereto shall be conducted on subsequent working days at district level as per above schedule. This would continue till the auction process is over. On failure of the first offline auction at District level, auction will also be initiated through the E-auction platforms of SAMIL https://gold.samil.in and/or e-Procurement Technologies Ltd. (AuctionTiger) - https://egold.auctiontiger.net/.

All participating bidders will be intimated subsequently with respect to acceptance or rejection of bids submitted by them.

Dated : 01.07.2026
Place : KARNATAKA

For, sd/- Authorised Signatory
Fedbank Financial Services Ltd.,

Safe, smart and secure Uttar Pradesh

A new chapter in Law and Order

Uttar Pradesh has undergone a significant transformation in law and order through sustained police reforms and technology-driven governance. Modernisation efforts have strengthened crime prevention, improved response systems and enhanced public safety across the state.

The establishment of police commissionerates in major cities has streamlined command structures, enabling faster decision-making and more effective enforcement. Specialised units now address organised crime, cybercrime and offences against women and children with greater efficiency.

The use of CCTV networks, AI-enabled applications and integrated command systems has improved surveillance and real-time monitoring. Citizen-centric apps and helplines have made grievance redressal more accessible.

Alongside this, initiatives focused on women's safety, anti-corruption enforcement and forensic capacity have further strengthened the policing ecosystem in Uttar Pradesh.

PICS: DIPR, UP GOVT

FROM REFORMS TO RESULTS: STRONGER POLICING, SAFER UTTAR PRADESH

- The establishment of police commissionerates in seven major cities has led to a marked improvement in policing standards, grievance redressal mechanisms and crime control
- In the crackdown on hardened criminals, 267 offenders have been eliminated and 10,990 injured in police encounters so far. A total of 22,306 wanted criminals carrying rewards on their arrest have been sent to jail.
- Proceedings under the Gangsters Act have been initiated against 85,118 offenders, while 977 have been detained under the National Security Act (NSA)
- Between March 2017 and December 2025, illegal movable and immovable assets worth more than ₹14,580 crore were confiscated under the Gangsters Act
- Mission Shakti Centres have been established at every police station across the state, and 40,000 police personnel have been trained to support their effective functioning
- Following the establishment of Mission Shakti Centres, a decline in crimes against women and children was recorded between September and December 2025
- According to the ITSSO Portal, Uttar Pradesh ranks first in the country in the disposal of crimes against women and children, achieving a disposal rate of 98.90%
- Women Power Line 1090, the Government Railway Police (GRP), Fire Services and Women Helpline 181 have been integrated to provide a more efficient emergency response and support system
- Programmes such as Mission Shakti 5.0, Operation Garud, Operation Shield, Operation Destroy, Operation Bachpan, Operation Khoj, Operation Dial and Operation Raksha are being implemented successfully to promote the safety and empowerment of women
- Through Vama Sarthi, accessible healthcare services have been provided benefiting more than 37,990 police families
- Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) infrastructure has been strengthened with the establishment of units in Ghaziabad, Ayodhya and Lucknow, supported by 18 field units and 11 operational teams; additionally, a new field unit was established in Sambhal in 2025
- The number of Forensic Science Laboratories has increased from 4 in 2017 to 12 currently operational, with work underway to establish 6 additional laboratories, aiming to set up one in each division
- Uttar Pradesh State Institute of Forensic Science established in Lucknow
- The Anti-Corruption Organisation (ACO) has established 8 new regional units and, since 2022, has registered 999 successful trap cases, recovered over ₹1.26 crore, and initiated action against 2,081 officials and employees
- Under Operation Trinetra, 12,61,495 CCTV cameras have been installed, resulting in the resolution of 9,864 cases of serious crime, including murder, robbery, kidnapping and snatching
- The YAKSHA app has been launched, leveraging advanced AI and data analytics to function as a digital beat book
- The Praheri Beat Policing App has been integrated with CCTNS, while the UPCOP App provides 27 services, including online FIR registration

PATH TO PROSPERITY

DOCTORS' DAY SPECIAL

READER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

The diagnosis is simple: earning well isn't enough. Experts explain why disciplined wealth management matters just as much

Code blue for delayed financial planning

■ Anisha.Sahijwala
@timesofindia.com

Doctors spend years building their careers through education, training and clinical practice. As their earnings grow, many focus on expanding clinics, purchasing equipment or acquiring property. But financial planners say long-term financial security requires a separate investment strategy. "Medical practitioners often have strong earning potential, but many postpone investing while they establish their practice. The earlier they begin investing regularly, the greater the potential benefit from compounding over time," says Narendra Suryadhar, an investment consultant.

LOOKING BEYOND INCOME

A high income does not automatically translate into long-term financial security. As earnings rise, expenses often increase too, with investments in a growing practice, home loans, children's education and lifestyle needs leaving less room for sustained investing if it is repeatedly deferred. Dr Sumedha Kumar Chawla, a general physician, says she recognised this after opening her clinic. "For the first few years, almost everything I earned went back into the practice. Eventually, I realised I needed a separate investment plan that wasn't linked to my profession," she says. She now invests a fixed amount every month through systematic investment plans (SIPs) in diversified mutual funds.

STAYING INVESTED THROUGH MARKET CYCLES

One advantage many doctors have is a long earning horizon, which can allow investments more time to benefit from compounding. Rather than trying to predict short-term market movements, financial planners recommend investing consistently across market cycles. "Markets will rise and fall, but long-term investing is driven more by discipline than by timing. Regular investments can help reduce the impact of market volatility while giving money more time to grow," says retired chartered accountant Jairam Gangadhar.

PLANNING FOR DIFFERENT FINANCIAL GOALS

Financial planners say assigning each goal to a suitable mutual fund category based on its time horizon can bring greater structure to investing. Equity-oriented funds are generally considered more suitable for long-term goals, while debt-oriented funds may be better suited to shorter-term needs, depending on an individual's financial goals and risk appetite.

ACCOUNTING FOR INFLATION

Another consideration is inflation. Money kept in savings accounts may not grow fast enough to maintain its purchasing power over long periods. Market-linked investments have the potential to generate inflation-beating returns over time, although they also carry investment risk and returns are not guaranteed.

Dr Chawla says investing regularly has changed the way she approaches her finances. "My profession generates income, but my investments are helping me build financial independence beyond my practice," she reveals.

Doctors devote their careers to improving the health of others. Financial planners say applying the same discipline to personal finances—through regular investing, diversification and patience—can help them work towards greater financial security over time.

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

- Start early to give your investments more time to benefit from compounding
- Invest regularly through SIPs to stay disciplined across market cycles
- Diversify across asset classes instead of relying on a single investment avenue
- Review your portfolio periodically as your income, goals and life stage evolve
- Plan for more than retirement, including clinic expansion, higher education, children's education, travel and healthcare
- Factor in inflation by choosing investments that have the potential to preserve purchasing power over the long term

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A strong portfolio needs a steady pulse

Short-term market swings can tempt investors to change course, but that decision often comes at a price

■ Anushila.Jana
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Investing, much like medical practice, requires a long-term perspective. Markets react sharply to policy changes, elections and global events, but they have historically recovered over longer periods. Trying to predict every rise and fall is difficult, and missing even a handful of the strongest recovery days can significantly affect long-term returns.

"Doctors don't alter a patient's treatment plan based on a single test result, and investments deserve the same discipline. Reviewing your portfolio every few months is sensible, but making decisions based on daily headlines or market fluctuations can undermine years of careful financial planning," says Jaydeep Deshpande, senior financial wellness consultant.

PUTTING PROFESSIONALS IN CHARGE

Diversification helps reduce the impact of any single company's performance, while professional fund management removes the need to monitor markets constantly.

"Many investors assume they need to pick the 'best-performing' fund, but consistency matters more than chasing last year's returns. Choose funds that align with your financial goals and risk appetite, then give them time to perform instead of switching investments every time uncertainty arises," says Gargi Mehta, personal finance expert.

BUILDING WEALTH, ONE STEP AT A TIME

A systematic investment plan (SIP) helps investors navigate market volatility by investing a fixed amount at regular intervals. This allows investors to buy more units when prices are lower and fewer when prices are higher, helping average out the cost of investing over time.

EVERY MILESTONE NEEDS A STRATEGY

Every financial goal has a different timeline. Whether it is retirement, children's education, expanding a clinic or building an emergency fund, investments should be aligned with the time available to achieve each objective. Long-term goals can generally accommodate a higher allocation to equity-oriented mutual funds, while shorter-term needs may be better suited to debt funds. Reviewing asset allocation periodically also helps keep investments aligned with evolving priorities.

"One of the biggest mistakes investors make during volatile periods is checking their portfolio every day and reacting to short-term losses. Instead, review your portfolio once or twice a year, or after a major life event. If your financial priorities haven't changed, your overall strategy probably shouldn't either, simply because prices have," says Radhika Sen, personal finance educator.

No investor can control market movements, but everyone can control how they respond. Staying invested, reviewing financial goals periodically and avoiding impulsive decisions can help build long-term wealth. Like medicine, successful investing rewards patience, discipline and consistency.

Disclaimer: BCCL does not endorse and is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein. Readers should seek appropriate professional advice before making any investment.

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LATEST IN HEALTH RESEARCH

Can a simple nasal spray slow down brain ageing?

Scientists in Texas have found a way to slow down aging in the brain, with a simple nasal spray. SciTechDaily reports that the study, published in the Journal of Extracellular Vesicles, found just two doses of the spray reduced inflammation, and improved mitochondrial function and memory within weeks, with effects lasting for months after. The therapy pushes extracellular vesicles (EVs), nano-sized biological particles that regulate inflammation, through the nasal spray directly into brain tissue, evading the blood-brain barrier. Study lead Dr Ashok Shetty said it could help stroke patients recover lost brain function and slow down cognitive decline.

WHICH ONE IS HEALTHIER?

Samosa (1 medium (100g))		Veg momo (6 pieces (steamed, 180g))
250-320	CALORIES	180-250
25-35g	CARBS	35-45g
4-6g	PROTEIN	6-9g
12-18g	FAT	1-4g
3-5g	FIBRE	3-5g
250-500g	SODIUM	300-600g

Both samosa and veg momo are favourite street-side vegetarian snacks. Samosa is deep-fried wheat flour dough with a savoury filling of potatoes, peas, onions and spices. Veg momo has a wheat flour outer covering too, but it's thinner. It's usually steamed, and often stuffed with more vegetables per serving than a samosa, with less inflammatory oxidized fat. While samosas are more satiating owing to a higher fat content, they have a higher carb load and spike insulin levels. Deep frying also piles on the calories. Steamed veg momos are a better choice for weight loss and blood sugar control as they have 25-40% fewer calories, much less fat, similar fibre and slightly more protein. If choosing street food, veg momos are a lighter option while samosas can be an occasional treat.

Source: **Ishi Khosla,** clinical nutritionist and author, 4G Code to Good Health

Obsession with flawless skin now has a name: Cosmeticorexia

Age-inappropriate, elaborate skincare routines are causing harm well beyond the skin, taking a mental health toll

Anuja.Jaiswal@timesofindia.com

SIGNS OF COSMETICOREXIA

1 Constantly checking mirror, buying many skincare products
2 Anxiety if skincare routine is interrupted, refusing to socialise without make-up
3 Distress over pores or uneven skin tone
4 Following multi-step skincare routines, using anti-ageing products, even when there's no need

WHAT SKIN NEEDS

■ **Rainbow diet:** Eat variety of antioxidant-rich foods. Avoid fast food, preservatives. Hydrate
■ **Simple routine:** Gentle cleanser, sunscreen when outdoors, moisturizer according to skin type
■ **Oily skin** produces natural sebum that's better than any cream. Stick to safe, transparent gel, if needed
■ **Dry skin** needs petrolatum-based moisturiser
■ **Sensitive skin** needs specialised creams. Skip guesswork, consult a dermatologist
■ **Reasoning, awareness:** Aging is driven by genetics, environment. Expecting OTC creams to reverse this process is illogical. Steroid-damaged facial skin needs medical treatment

WHAT SKIN DOESN'T NEED

■ **Cosmetic reactions:** Few ingredients in cosmetics can irritate skin, trigger allergies, leave dark marks
■ **Marketing gimmicks:** 'Active' ingredients often overhyped. Cream base matters
■ **Overpriced products:** Expensive creams don't always work better. Only an expert can accurately identify skin type (oily, dry, mixed, sensitive), rule out underlying allergies

An 18-year-old girl from Delhi had gone to treat a bad case of acne when the dermatologist asked to see what skincare products she uses. Out tumbled toners, moisturisers, anti-aging compounds, sunscreens and even a scrub with exfoliating acids meant for mature skin. "She spent a lot of money on these cosmetics," recalls Dr Kabir Sardana, professor and head of dermatology at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Delhi who treated her.

He let the girl use the moisturiser but stopped the sunscreens as they were more likely to clog pores and cause more acne. A low-dose oral retinoid (vitamin A) every alternate day, a topical antibiotic gel at night, and a face wash completed her new anti-acne routine. Her skin cleared in a month. "She thanked us profusely, but all we did was let her see her natural skin that had been masked by useless products. I encourage them to share it on social media as I've realised this generation listens more to their peers than us," says Dr Sardana.

Always looking at the mirror

Dermatologists have coined a term for the obsession with flawless (glass) skin: 'cosmeticorexia'. Though not yet a formally recognised medical or psychiatric diagnosis, the term recently gained attention after an editorial published this year in Dermatology and Therapy by Italian researchers defined it as "a culturally reinforced preoccupation with achieving flawless skin that can lead to excessive, age-inappropriate, or compulsive use of cosmetic products and procedures", calling it a condition that deserves greater attention from dermatologists and mental health professionals alike.

The imagined ideal skin is driven by the social media influencer culture, peer pressure, and aggressive beauty marketing targeting minors. Consumer watchdogs in Italy have recently cracked down on upmarket beauty brands for fuelling this unhealthy obsession among children. From retinol creams and vitamin C serums to elaborate "glass skin" routines, dermatologists say a growing number of adolescents are now spending time, money and emotional energy trying to fix perfectly fine skin, while often making it worse. "Many teens are ruining the healthiest skin of their lives by using anti-aging products, while increasingly being sold the idea that flawless skin can be achieved only through products and routines. The 'Korean skin' craze is partly driving this trend," rues Dr Sardana.

Even people in their 20s and 30s are getting sucked into this trend. "Uneven facial skin tone is common in the Indian population. It's not a disease," insists Dr Neirita Hazarika, professor and head of dermatology at AIIMS Guwahati. "Yet people start using over-the-counter creams and products recommended by random people online. In the long run, this can even cause dermatitis and pigmentation that were not there in the first place." There is no scientific evidence supporting anti-aging cosmetics in teenagers, she says.

Young skin is naturally more sensitive and permeable than adult skin. Excessive use of retinols, exfoliating acids and peeling agents can disrupt the skin barrier and trigger allergic reactions and inflammation. "Many young adults are using multiple products simultaneously. This increases risk of side effects and allergic reactions," says Dr Sardana.

Mental health at stake

The concern extends beyond skin. "Cosmeticorexia combines body image preoccupation with flawless skin, anxiety when routines are disrupted and compulsive skincare behaviours," says Dr Alok Kulkarni, senior consultant psychiatrist at Manas Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Hubballi. It overlaps with body dysmorphia traits and obsessive-compulsive behaviour as well. As filtered selfies and edited images create beauty standards that real skin cannot meet, Dr Kulkarni says they are seeing more young people distressed by normal skin features such as pores, texture and occasional breakouts.

He speaks of a 13-year-old girl who came to him with a dry, red and stinging face after using a 10-step skincare routine daily for six months. "She used to spend 1-2 hours every night applying 8-12 products, many marketed for adult or anti-aging use. She checked her skin in the mirror multiple times a day, getting distressed if she missed any step or if a new pimple appeared," recalls Dr Kulkarni. She even refused to attend school or social events without completing her full make-up routine. She was later found to have irritant contact dermatitis and a compromised skin barrier. "She described her skin as 'ugly' and 'failing' despite clinical findings being mild. Anxiety about her appearance drove her to keep at it, even when her skin got irritated and her social life got disrupted," he says.

> Cosmeticorexia overlaps with body dysmorphia and OCD traits. As filtered selfies & edited images create beauty standards that real skin cannot meet, we are seeing more young people getting distressed by normal skin features like pores, texture and occasional breakouts
> **Dr Alok Kulkarni,** PSYCHIATRIST

According to Dr Savita Malhotra, head of psychiatry at Fortis Hospital, Mohali, teenagers are especially vulnerable as their self-esteem is still developing. "Those with low self-esteem, social anxiety or a need for peer approval are most susceptible."

Skin health not about glamour

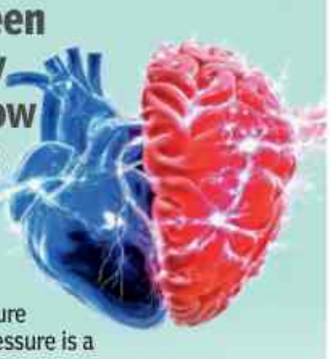
Surprisingly, the healthiest skin advice remains the least glamorous. "Healthy skin comes from balanced nutrition, adequate hydration and good sleep. No expensive skincare routine can replace these basics," stresses Dr Hazarika. For most teens, doctors recommend a gentle cleanser, moisturiser when needed, and sunscreen when outdoors. "The focus should be skin health, not perfection," believes Dr Nipun Jain, senior consultant dermatologist at Sri Balaji Action Medical Institute, Delhi. He advises parents to watch for warning signs such as excessive mirror checking, repeated purchases of skincare products, anxiety over minor imperfections, and avoidance of social situations owing to appearance concerns.

"When skincare starts causing stress instead of confidence, it's no longer self-care, it's obsession," adds Dr Jain. As beauty brands continue selling 'perfect skin' goals, doctors have a simple reminder: healthy skin is not perfect skin. It's skin that's real.

TIPS, TRENDS & TECH

KNOW YOUR VITAL STATS

Reading between the beats: Why you should know pulse pressure



Did you know your blood pressure readings hide a third metric that could be quietly predicting your future cognitive health? Pulse pressure is a window to vascular wellbeing and recent research shows a higher reading could directly raise dementia risks

How to check it

■ Blood pressure has 2 readings measuring force with which blood pushes through arteries, one when heart is beating (systolic), one when it's at rest (diastolic). Difference between the two is pulse pressure

■ Reflects how flexible arteries are
■ Prolonged high readings may mean stiffened arteries, plaque build-up
■ Naturally rises with age as systolic pressure rises, diastolic pressure falls

40 mm Hg Normal pulse pressure, when BP is 120/80mm Hg

23% higher risk of coronary artery disease with every 10 mm Hg rise

60 mm Hg and higher means there's heart disease risk

> **Picture a healthy blood vessel as a deflated balloon. It doesn't take much effort to re-inflate it. But if you're blowing into a brand-new balloon, or one that's very stiff, you have to generate a lot of pressure to force the air in**
> **Dr Charles Hong,** CHAIR OF MEDICINE AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF HUMAN MEDICINE

How it affects cognition

■ In June, Neurology published a research paper by US scientists that linked being prone to high pulse pressure to a 16% increased risk of dementia-related deaths
■ **9,000** people (average age of 64) took part in study
■ **450** of them had died of a dementia-related cause after 14 years
■ A 2025 study by Cambridge University researchers, punblished in the journal Hypertension, found that high pulse pressure disrupts structure of brain's white matter, slowing down processing speed and leading to cognitive decline

How to keep it in check

■ Control high BP through medication when prescribed

■ Cut down on salt and unhealthy fats
■ Exercise regularly to improve blood vessel health

■ Follow a heart-healthy DASH diet rich in fruits, veggies and fibre

■ Monitor BP regularly, especially after 60

Source: NBC News

✉ Email your feedback to **toihealth.plus@timesofindia.com** with Health Plus in the subject line. Please mention your name and city

TIMES NATION

11-yr-old killed, 4 hurt as tree crashes on Mumbai schoolvan

Root Damage Due To Road Work Suspected

Mahiyar Patel & Richa Pinto | TNN

Mumbai: An 11-year-old boy, Vihaan Srivastava, was killed and four other children were injured after a roadside peepul tree was uprooted and crashed onto a school van carrying students from Universal High School in Chembur (West) on Tuesday afternoon.

The incident occurred around 3 pm on 11th Road when the nearly 70-year-old tree fell onto the van, which was carrying around 12 students. Raju, a security guard at Heritage Heights near the accident site, said, "I heard a loud cracking sound and saw the tree beginning to fall. The children and the driver were inside the van. The driver tried to accelerate and move it to safety, but the lane was too narrow. Before he could get out, the tree crashed onto the vehicle."

BMC officials said the tree was around 70 years old and had undergone routine premonsoon pruning on May 29. But an official claimed that its roots may have been damaged during road concreting work carried out earlier this year.

"During the road work, the tree's roots appeared to have been damaged. The garden department had flagged concerns to the roads department and asked engineers to ensure the roots were protected, but we did not receive a favourable response. The exact cause of the collapse is yet to be ascertained," the official said.

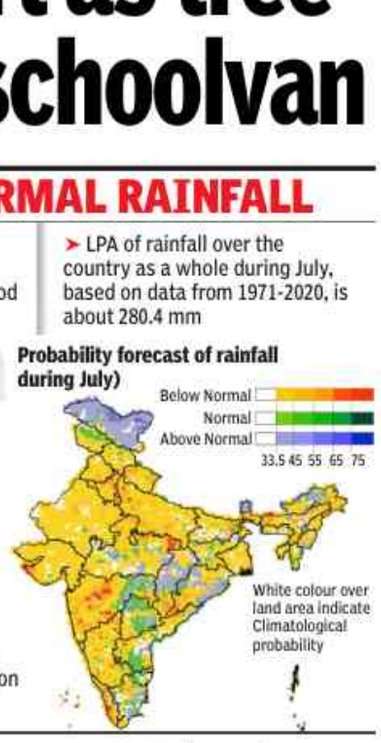
JULY MAY GET BELOW NORMAL RAINFALL

➤ Monthly average rainfall over the country as a whole during July is most likely to be 'below normal'
➤ Rainfall in the country may be less than 94% of long period average (LPA)
➤ LPA of rainfall over the country as a whole during July, based on data from 1971-2020, is about 280.4 mm

JUNE ENDED WITH HUGE DEFICIT OF 40%
65% of the country's area got deficient rainfall in June

Region-wise deficit in June
Deficit (% departure from normal)

Probability forecast of rainfall during July)



Below-normal rainfall is likely across most parts of the country except some areas of northwest and northeast India, east-central India and the eastern peninsular region where normal to above-normal rainfall is likely

India logs fifth-lowest June rain since 1901

▶Continued from page 1

Noting that "rainfall over all India (99.5 mm) was fifth lowest June rainfall since 1901", Mohapatra said, "There was negative impact on rainfall activity over Indian region due to development of El Niño, while the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), which is in neutral phase, could not help to compensate the negative impact of El Nino." Not a single low-pressure system formed during June, he added.

The lowest ever rainfall in June was recorded in 2009 (87.6mm), an El Niño year which saw a major drought, followed by 1905 (91.9mm), 2014 (92.8mm), 1926 (96.7mm) and 2026 (99.5mm). This year, India received the lowest June rainfall after 2014, which was another drought year.

Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), which in the positive phase is known to soften the adverse impact of El Niño, continues to be in neutral phase, as per IMD's model. However, some global models hint at the possibility of it turning positive by the end of Aug or early Sept. If that happens, the second half of the monsoon season may get slightly better rainfall, but it may not offset the June-July deficit, IMD said.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and IOD are two key factors that govern variation in monsoon rainfall.

5 dead as tree falls on e-rickshaw

Agra: Five people died and two, including a three-year-old boy, were critically injured after a tree was uprooted during a sudden dust storm and crashed onto a moving e-rickshaw in UP's Firozabad district on Monday evening, officials said on Tuesday. The tree also snapped overhead high-tension power lines, triggering a power outage and hampering rescue operations.

According to Fariha SHO Rajiv Kumar, the accident took place on the Awagarh-Fariha road near Prithvi Singh Chhidrai village. "The e-rickshaw was ferrying passengers from Awagarh in Etah to Fariha," the SHO said. TNN

Japan and India: Strategically Aligned Trusted Partnership

Takaichi Sanae

I am delighted to visit New Delhi for the Japan-India Annual Summit at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This visit to India — my first as Prime Minister — coincides with the 20th anniversary of the first of a series of annual alternating visits the leaders of Japan and India have been making to each other's country. Frequent exchanges between the leaders not only serve to reinforce the robust bilateral relationship but also provide an opportunity for candid discussions on how to address the challenges facing the international community in these uncertain and testing times. It is a great honor to carry forward this baton, following Prime Minister Modi's visit to Japan last Aug.

Through Japan's ODA, infrastructure developments such as regional roads and bridges, including the Dhubri-Phulbari Bridge, will extend industrial value chains across India and onward to ASEAN and beyond

Since Japan and India elevated their bilateral relationship to a "Special Strategic and Global Partnership" in 2014, concrete cooperation has progressed across a wide range of fields including security, the economy, and people-to-people exchanges. As former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe once stated, "A strong India is good for Japan and a strong Japan is good for India." I am firmly convinced that, by leveraging each other's strengths and becoming "more resilient and prosperous together", we will serve the interests of both nations.

It is here in India that the very concept of today's "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" first took root. "The different streams, having their sources in different places, all mingle their water in the sea." Prime Minister Abe, in his speech to the Indian Parliament, quoted these words of Swami Vivekananda in declaring that we should view the Pacific and Indian Oceans as one and that it is our shared responsibility to pursue freedom and prosperity by cooperating with like-minded countries. This vision remains as relevant as ever, and there is a compelling need for Japan and India to cooperate in realising this goal.

One of the areas to which I attach particular importance at this summit is the strengthening of the strategic relationship between our countries. I wish to deepen cooperation in the field of security and strengthen our capacity to navigate the uncertain international landscape. In addition, we must work together to enhance the autonomy and resilience of countries in vulnerable positions so that they are never forced into choices under coercion from other states — this is the essence of the "Updated FOIP" I set forth in May. A genuinely free and open region is not one where only the great powers enjoy freedom but one where every nation is able to chart its own course of its own free will, unswayed by external coercion. This is the true nature of FOIP.

I am convinced that this vision resonates profoundly with India's MAHASAGAR initiative. This initiative, advocated by Prime Minister Modi, regards the ocean not as an arena for hegemony but as a shared commons that underpins the stability and growth of the entire region. India is a maritime nation that has taken concrete action to provide regional stability and support the resilience of countries in the area. It is for this very reason that India is an indispensable partner for Japan in the joint realisation of FOIP, and I look forward to shaping together an international order founded upon these principles.

Cooperation grounded in FOIP, India's Indo-Pacific Oceans' Initiative (IPOI), and MAHASAGAR is already in evidence. The "Industrial Value Chain" concept, for instance, seeks to enhance connectivity from Assam to various parts of North-East India and Bangladesh, thereby enabling access to the Indian Ocean. Through Japan's ODA, infrastructure developments such as regional roads and bridges, including the Dhubri-Phulbari Bridge, as well as Matarbari Port in Bangladesh, will extend industrial value chains not only within North-East but also across India and onward to ASEAN and beyond. Our valued friends like Nepal and Bhutan will benefit as well.

When PM Modi visited Japan last Aug, both countries announced the "Japan-India Joint Vision for the Next Decade". As we work toward the realisation of this vision, and taking full account of the international situation that has unfolded over the past year, I intend to put forward concrete cooperation initiatives, especially in the pressing areas of economic security, energy security, and emerging technologies such as AI.

Cultural and people-to-people exchanges, rooted in the historical and cultural ties between Japan and India, are equally important. In my hometown of Nara, Buddhist culture, which traces its origins to India, still vividly lives on. I trust the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India next year will serve to give further impetus to such exchanges.

The relationship between Japan and India is now a strategically aligned trusted partnership. I look forward to wide-ranging discussions with PM Modi on how best to advance our relationship for future generations as we aspire to become "more resilient and prosperous together".

The writer is PM of Japan

HEALTHCARE HEROES

READER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

The new doctor-patient equation

Advances in technology, easy access to medical information, and evolving patient expectations are redefining communication, trust, and care in the consulting room

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PHOTOS USED FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY

PHOTOS: ISTOCK

The doctor-patient relationship is undergoing a significant transformation. Easy access to medical information and the growing influence of social media have blurred the line between credible advice and misinformation. While patients are becoming more informed and actively involved in decisions about their health, doctors are adapting to a relationship increasingly built on dialogue, shared decision-making and transparency.

CHANGING CARE DYNAMICS

"The doctor-patient relationship has become more collaborative," says Dr Raghu Nagaraj, director of an institute of orthopaedics, sports medicine and robotic joint replacement. According to him, patients now have access to multiple communication channels and a better understanding of their health conditions. This has empowered them to take a more active role in their healthcare, but it has also led to confusion and an increasing tendency to seek multiple opinions.

Dr B Ramesh, chief consultant-obstetrician, gynaec laparoscopic surgeon, IVF and urogynaecology specialist, and fertility and endometriosis specialist, believes the relationship has become more complex. "As society and technology advance, trust between doctors and patients has increasingly given way to suspicion, with many questioning doctors' intentions. The commercialisation of medical education has also created the perception that anyone can become a doctor by spending money, and this has serious consequences," he adds.

> *Patients are more informed, and this enables them to better understand their conditions and participate more actively in discussions about their treatment. It also allows doctors to explain procedures, expected outcomes and possible risks in greater detail. An informed patient who feels comfortable asking questions, along with a doctor who takes the time to explain treatment options, can together achieve the best possible health outcomes.*

DOCTORS' DILEMMA

Doctors say the growing reliance on social media is reshaping conversations in the consultation room. According to Dr Nagaraj, social media and online health information are a double-edged sword. He explains, "On the positive side, patients are more aware of their condition, making discussion, diagnosis and treatment easier. However, misinformation, exaggerated claims and one-size-fits-all treatment narratives can create misconceptions. A treatment that works well for one patient may not be suitable for another. A doctor's role is to help patients distinguish evidence-based information from myths and guide them towards treatment decisions best suited to their individual condition." Sharing a similar view, Dr Shraddha Bahirwani, centre head and senior consultant at a dental clinic, says, "While patients are encouraged to research and ask questions, they should always discuss and validate that information with their doctor before making treatment decisions. The internet provides information, but doctors provide the knowledge, experience and clinical judgement needed to apply that information safely and effectively."

The influence of social media extends beyond information. Doctors say it has also fuelled anxiety among patients, with many arriving at consultations after encountering alarming or misleading content online. Time constraints present another challenge for doctors. "Many patients lead busy lives and expect consultations and treatments to fit into tight schedules. However, quality healthcare requires adequate time for examination, discussion and treatment planning," shares Dr Bahirwani.

BUILDING MUTUAL TRUST

Even amid these challenges, doctors believe that the changing relationship offers significant opportunities. Greater access to health information has transformed patients into active participants in their care. This shift has made consultations more meaningful, provided the information patients rely on is accurate.

As Dr Bahirwani says, "Patients are more informed, and this enables them to better understand their conditions and participate more actively in discussions about their treatment. It also allows doctors to explain procedures, expected outcomes and possible risks in greater detail. An informed patient who feels comfortable asking questions, along with a doctor who takes the time to explain treatment options, can together achieve the best possible health outcomes." Doctors stress that the relationship must be built on mutual understanding. "Patients should follow their doctor's advice rather than relying on social media for medical knowledge. Similarly, doctors should be empathetic and understanding," opines Dr Ramesh.

> There is nothing wrong with patients looking up health information online, as it reflects their interest in understanding their health better. However, information on the internet should be viewed as a starting point, not a substitute for professional medical advice

PARTNERS IN HEALING

Meaningful communication remains the core of effective care, and every healing journey begins with a patient beingheard. "When a patient walks into my consultation room, my priority is to listen carefully and understand their concerns because every symptom deserves to be taken seriously. Equally important is understanding how best to communicate with them so that I can explain their condition and treatment options in a clear, relatable and easy-to-understand manner," Dr Nagaraj details the initial consultation process. Creating a comfortable atmosphere is also important. "Many patients walk into a clinic feeling anxious or apprehensive, so creating a welcoming environment helps them talk about their symptoms and concerns. I believe greeting with a smile and building a rapport encourages honest communication, which is essential for making the right diagnosis and recommending the most appropriate treatment," adds Dr Bahirwani.

Doctors also emphasise the importance of honest conversations from the patient during consultations. Sharing a complete medical history, details of previous treatments and current concerns enable doctors to make better clinical decisions. "If patients have doubts, they should discuss them with their doctor rather than leaving with unanswered questions. Trusting the treatment plan and giving it sufficient time to work is also crucial, as continuity of care often plays a significant role in achieving the best results," suggests Dr Nagaraj. As healthcare continues to evolve, a doctor-patient partnership built on open communication, mutual respect and informed decision-making can pave the way for better solutions and more meaningful healing.

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Marathalli 28441062/63

Email: sathya@shreyahearingclinic.com
Centers at Hyderabad, Mangaluru and Mysore

Guj Medical Council suspends 3 doctors for 13 months over company-sponsored foreign trip

Bharat.Yagnik@timesofindia.com

Ahmedabad: More than two years after a biotech company sponsored an overseas trip for a group of doctors, Gujarat Medical Council (GMC) Tuesday suspended the registration of three dermatologists for 13 months on grounds of 'misconduct'.

The doctors facing disciplinary action are Dr Jagdishkumar Sakhiya, Dr Ami Shah and Dr Geeta Patel. Dr Sakhiya is the founder of a chain of skin clinics and organising secretary of DERMACON 2027, an upcoming international conference of Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venerologists and Leprologists.

The three dermatologists were among 30 medical professionals from nine states who had travelled to Paris and Monaco in 2024 to participate in conferences, with Abbvie Healthcare India Pvt Ltd bearing their expenses.

Cybercriminals weaponise digital tools against women: Experts

▶ Continued from page 1

This relative lack of digital literacy, coupled with the fact that they often possess substantial retirement savings, makes them lucrative targets for scammers using sophisticated social engineering, fake customer-care alerts and bank impersonation tactics to drain their life savings," the officer added.

Vinit Kumar said senior citizens often lack digital hygiene and tend to trust unknown callers, making them vulnerable to "digital arrest" scams, in which fraudsters threaten and extort money. He added that in another common modus operandi, scammers pose as officials from the electricity department and warn victims that their power supply will be disconnected.

They then send an APK file and ask victims to fill in their bank details, leading to financial fraud. "Senior citizens should maintain good digital hygiene and follow a no-trust policy. Anyone claiming to be a police officer or an official from any department should always be verified," he said.

Women, meanwhile, continue to face a hostile digital environment marked by targeted harassment and cyber exploitation. NCRB data shows that 78 cybercrime and Information Technology Act cases were registered in Delhi in 2024 where women aged 18 and above were the primary victims.

Of these, 75 cases involved the unauthorised publishing or transmission of sexually explicit content online. In 2023, 36 such cases were registered, including 28 related to sexually explicit material.

Experts say women remain particularly vulnerable as cybercriminals increasingly weaponise digital tools to inflict reputational, social and psychological harm. Morphing, fake social media profiles and the non-consensual circulation of intimate content have emerged as potent tools of coercion, exploiting deep-rooted societal stigmas.

Perhaps most alarming is the sharp surge in cyber threats targeting children. NCRB data shows that children were victims in 151 cybercrime cases in Delhi in 2024.

Of these, 149 cases involved the online publication or transmission of material depicting children in sexually explicit acts. In 2023, only 14 such cases were registered, nine of them linked to similar offences.

14001/77/2627

DIRECTORATE OF HANDICRAFTS, ODISHA

HEADS OF THE DEPARTMENT BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, UNIT-V BHUBANESWAR-751001

HANDLOOMS, TEXTILES & HANDICRAFTS DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF ODISHA

TENDER FOR SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF MACHINERY, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT FOR TERRACOTTA CRAFT IN THE COMMON FACILITY CENTRE (CFC) OF BARGARH DISTRICT

Tender No. 3853 // Date 30/06/2026

Directorate of Handicrafts, Odisha under the administrative control of Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts Department, Govt. of Odisha is looking after promotion and development of handicrafts sector in the State.

Sealed tenders (in A4-sized envelopes) along with the requisite documents are invited from experienced and eligible agencies to provide end-to-end services for the supply, installation and commissioning of Machinery, Tools and Equipment for the Terracotta Craft Common Facility Centre (CFC) in Bargarh District, Odisha. This scope of work includes internal electrification for the Machinery, Tools and Equipment.

The Bid Document can be downloaded from the website: **https://crafts.odisha.gov.in**. The bidder has to submit the Bid document fee i.e., Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand) only in shape of DD in favour of "The Director of Handicrafts, Odisha" with the Technical Bid. The last date of receipt of the sealed offers in this Directorate is up to **5.00 PM** on **21.07.2026** by Speed Post/ Registered Post/Courier only. The "Technical Bids" will be opened on **23.07.2026** at **11.30 AM** in presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives. The date & time of opening the "Financial Bids" of technically qualified bidders will be intimated in due course.

The bidders shall submit the Technical Bid and Financial Bid along with all requisite documents in the manner prescribed in the Bid Document & strictly in conformity with the terms and conditions stipulated therein.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the offers without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Director of Handicrafts, Odisha

OIPR-14001/14008/1/26-27/0005

32001/472/2627

GOVT. OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
Office of the Additional Chief Engineer
Vansadhara Nagabali Basin, Paralakhemundi
(email Id: se_sicpkd@yahoo.com)
e-Procurement Notice No. ACEVNB-04/2026-27

1.	Type of works	:	Canal Lining
2.	Total number of Packages	:	2 (two) Nos.
3.	Estimated Cost	:	Rs. 735.59 lakhs to Rs. 752.57 lakhs
4.	Bid Identification No.	:	ACEVNB/HID-04/2026-27, ACEVNB/HID-05/2026-27
5.	Period of completion	:	12 (Twelve) months
6.	Availability & submission of bids online	:	From 11.00 AM of 07.07.2026 to 5.00 PM of 28.07.2026.
7.	Date of Opening of Technical Bids.	:	29.07.2026 at 11.00 AM. in the. O/O the Additional Chief Engineer, Vansadhara Nagabali Basin, Paralakhemundi.
8.	Procurement Officer	:	Additional Chief Engineer, Vansadhara Nagabali Basin, Paralakhemundi.
9.	Further details can be seen from Govt. Website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in** and any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation will be published in the said website.		

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Vansadhara Nagabali Basin
Paralakhemundi

OIPR-32001/32417/1/26-27/0005

25001/588/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA-JAJPUR.
AT - CHANDIKHOL, PO-SUNGUDA, JAJPUR -754296,
Tel No. 0671-2444488, Email-serw_kpd@yahoo.com

Letter No.- 4102 Date :- 30/06/2026

1st Corrigendum Notice

1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Tender Online RCK-11/26 invited by this office vide Letter No.-3819, Dt.-11.06.2026.

The changes as detailed below are hereby made in the above N.I.T.:-

1 Clause no-06 of NIT modified below:-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification		Date & Time of opening of tender			
						Technical Bid		Financial Bid	
		Previously fixed on	Presently Modified on	Previously fixed on	Presently Modified on	Previously fixed on	Presently Modified on	Previously fixed on	Presently Modified on
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Jajpur	Tender RCK-11/26	From 23.06.2026 At 11.00 A.M To 09.07.2026 Up to 05.00 P.M	From 23.06.2026 At 11.00 A.M To 14.07.2026 Up to 05.00 P.M	09.07.2026 up to 02.00 PM	14.07.2026 up to 02.00 P.M	10.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M	15.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M	Will be intimated later	Will be intimated later

All other conditions of NIT remain unaltered.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur

OIPR-25001/25129/1/26-27/0009

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

CORRIGENDUM

No.: 75/Tenders, Dated: 25/06/2026. The following Corrigendum against Tenders are carried out as under:- **Sl. No.; Particulars; Tender No.; As per Tender Document; To be read as follows: [1];** Tender Opening Date; **75264030** (Cab Assly. for WAG-9HC); 03/07/2026; **13/07/2026. [2];** Tender Opening Date; **75264032** (Roof Assly. for WAG-9HC); 01/08/2026; **11/08/2026. [3];** Tender Opening Date; **75264033** (Side Wall Assly. for WAG-9HC); 10/07/2026; **20/07/2026. [4];** Tender Opening Date; **75264019** (Central Under Frame for WAG-9HC); 26/06/2026; **06/07/2026. [5];** Tender Opening Date; **75264021** (Side Sill Assly. for WAG-9HC); 02/07/2026; **13/07/2026. [6];** Tender Opening Date; **75264023** (Head Stock Assly. for WAG-9HC); 17/07/2026; **27/07/2026. [7];** Tender Opening Date; **75264061** (Bolster Assly. for WAG-9HC); 08/08/2026; **18/08/2026. [8];** Tender Opening Date; **75264022** (Centre Sill for WAG-9HC); 04/07/2026; **Nil. [9];** Eligibility Criteria; **All Tender** (As per Sr. 1 to 8); Existing; **Sources of Shell shall be considered approved for constituent Extra Large Fabricated Items. However, sources of Shell delisted for the tendered constituent Extra Large Fabricated item, shall not be considered for any ordering for that item. For sources of Shell supplying the tendered Extra Large fabricated items first time, Prototype clearance shall be obtained before bulk manufacturing.**

[PR4/404] AMM/M/CLW/Chittaranjan

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कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता,
सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत कोटपूतली

क्रमांक - 114 **NIT No 03/2026-27** दिनांक - 19/06/2026

Bid for 03 Nos. work in Kotputli-Behror District are invited from interested bidder from 23-06-2026 11:00 Am to 14-07-2026 06:00 pm. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (Http:// eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://sppp.raj.nic.in of the state and http:// pwd.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website. The approximate value of the procurements Is Rs. 858.49 Lacs.
UBN No:- 1. PWD2627WSOB05555 2. PWD2627WSOB05559 3. PWD2627WSOB05560

Sd/-
(Ramawatar Kumawat)
Superintending Engineer
PWD Circle Kotputli

DIPR/C/11279/2026

6001/61/2627

The Odisha State Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
D-2, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007
PH NO.: 0674-2546030, 2540273, 2540417, 2540974
E-mail ID: omfed@yahoo.com
www.omfed.com

E-Tender

OMFED invites Techno-Commercial tenders from experienced contractors for execution of the Supply, Installation, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 4 MT Capacity Dairy Product & Ice Cream Walking Cold Storage at Various Dairies of Omfed. The e-tender is invited on-line through 'e'-procurement of Govt. of Odisha web Portal **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** and **http://www.omfed.com**. The Bid documents will be available in the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** from 10.00 AM of 01.07.2026 to 05.00 PM of 14.07.2026. The technical bid shall be opened at 03.00 PM. of 15.07.2026 at OMFED Corporate office in the presence of the interested bidders. The Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bid document or part thereof without assigning any reason.

Sd/-
Managing Director

OIPR-6001/6063/1/26-27/0031

6001/62/2627

The Odisha State Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
D-2, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007
PH NO.: 0674-2546030, 2540273, 2540417, 2540974
E-mail ID: omfed@yahoo.com
www.omfed.com

Tender Notice

Omfed invites sealed offers for experiences civil Contractors for execution of Civil and Electrical work towards establishment of walk in cold store room for Ice Cream & Milk product at various Dairies of Omfed." The Bid documents will be available in the website: **www.omfed.com** from 10.00 AM of 01.07.2026 to 14.07.2026 up to 1.00 P.M. The bids shall be opened on 14.07.2026 at 03:00 P.M. at Corporate Office, Omfed in the presence of the interested bidders. The Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bid document or part thereof without assigning any reason. Any addendum/Corrigendum will be published in our website.

Sd/-
Managing Director

OIPR-6001/6063/1/26-27/0032

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER

No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 25/06/2026. The following **e-Tenders** can be accessed under the link **www.ireps.gov.in.** Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link **www.ireps.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply**. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy. CMM/M-II/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340708 or AMM/M, 9163340706. **Office Address:** Office of The PCMM / CLW/Chittaranjan. **Sl. No.: [1]. Tender No.: 75263824. Brief Description of Item: (i)** S.S.Tube for WAG-9HC DIA 10 O/D X 1mm W.T. X 6 Mtrs. Lg. (Weight/mtrs. = 0.22 kg.) As per Specn.No. CLW/MS/3/029 Alt.10. **[Warranty Period:** 72 Months after the date of delivery**], (ii)** S.S.Tube for WAG-9HC O/D 38.1 (1 1/2") X 3.404 mm W.T. X 6 Mtrs. Lg. (Weight/mtrs. =2.93 kg.) As per Specn.No. CLW/MS/3/029 Alt.10. **[Warranty Period:** 72 Months after the date of delivery**], (iii)** S.S.Tube for WAG-9HC O/D 25.4 mm (1") X 2.108 W.T. X 6 Mtrs. Lg. (Weight/mtrs.= 1.22Kg.) As per Specn.No. CLW/MS/3/029 Alt.10. **[Warranty Period:** 72 Months after the date of delivery**], (iv)** Seamless STN. Steel Tube O/D 12.7(1/2") X 0.889 W.T X 6 Mtr. Lg. (Weight/mts=0.26kg), as per Specn. CLW/MS/3/029 Alt.-10 **[Warranty Period:** 72 Months after the date of delivery**]. Quantity: (i)** 23460.00 metre, **(ii)** 29892.00 metre, **(iii)** 40749.00 metre, **(iv)** 4474.00 metre. **Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹2000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 03/09/2026 at 11:00 AM.**

PR3/403 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan

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IDBI BANK LIMITED
Regd. Off. IDBI Tower, WTC Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai-400 005
CIN No: L65190MH2004GOI148838

RFP For Procurement, Installation & Implementation of Vulnerability Assessment, Web Application Scanning (WAS) & Risk Based Vulnerability Prioritization Solution

IDBI Bank invites sealed proposals from eligible bidders for the above RFP / Solution. Please visit Bank's website **https://www.idbi.bank.in** (Notices & Tenders) for details.

Note: Any further Addenda / Corrigenda / Extension of dates / Clarifications / Responses to bidders' queries in respect of the above RFP shall be posted only on Bank's website and no separate notification shall be issued in the newspapers. Bidders are therefore requested to regularly visit Bank's website to keep themselves updated in this regard.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Sr. CDO, Santragachi, South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur Division, acting through the President of India invites an open tender, through e-tendering in **www.ireps.gov.in** website as per details mentioned below. Eligible tenderers are requested to apply for the same through online only in **www.ireps.gov.in** website as per details mentioned below. No offline tender will be accepted. Please read the tender document uploaded in the document section for details. **Sl.No.-1. Tender Notice No.: SRC-C-LINEN-OUT-010726, Dt: 29.06.2026. Name of the work:** Mechanized washing of dirty linens of AC coaches, packaging of washed linens and loading and unloading to and from trains of Santragachi & Padmapukur coaching Depot for a period of 02 (two) years. **Tender Value:** ₹ 39,35,75,290.70 (including GST). **EMD:** ₹ 21,17,900. **Closing date of tender:** 24.07.2026 at 11.30 hrs. **Cost of Tender document:** ₹ 10,000 (non-refundable). **Sl.No.-2. Tender Notice No.: SRC-C-OBHS-GR1-040726, Dt: 29.06.2026. Name of the work:** On Board Housekeeping Service and linen Distribution (Group 1) for trains of Santragachi for a period of 03 years. **Tender Value:** ₹ 67,90,31,547.32 (including GST). **EMD:** ₹ 35,45,200. **Closing date of tender:** 27.07.2026 at 11.30 hrs. **Cost of Tender document:** ₹ 25,000 (non-refundable). **(PR-399)**

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.2, 2/1 & 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560009. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-04/1856/2026-27 **Date:30.06.2026**

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES

(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender under Quality Based Consultancy System (QCBS) as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following works: **Name of the works:** (1) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Road, Construction of RCC Side Drain & Construction of Spur Culvert at Dobaspet 3rd Phase Industrial Area, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru District. (2) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Establishment, Commissioning of 10 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant followed by 5 MLD Tertiary Treatment Plant along with 2 modules of 1.50 MLD each Common Effluent Treatment Plant with 1.50 MLD Capacity RO System & ZLD Facilities on total turnkey basis, including Operation & Maintenance of entire Plant for a period of 10 years at KWIN City at Phase-1 in Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. (3) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Survey, Investigation, Design, Supply, Installation, Erection, Laying, Construction and Commissioning of MS Pipe Rising Main from IPS-03 to Malur and Other Industrial Areas, Land Acquisition, 5 years of O&M for Providing & supplying fresh water to the industrial areas in districts around Bengaluru on EPC Basis. (Package-4) (2nd Call)

- Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **17.07.2026** upto **4:00** pm.

Applicants may download bidding documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Engineer-In-Chief, KIADB

DIPR/CP/1396/CCL/2026-27

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division Ballari
Email: ee_pwdbellary@yahoo.com Telephone No: 08392 -266123

No: EE/PWD/BD/TS-4/F-201/2026-27/1633 **Dated :29/06/2026**

Short Term Tender Notification (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division, Ballari invites the tenders for the works detailed in the table from the eligible contractors registered in Karnataka Public Works Department, through Karnataka public procurement portal. Two cover tender procedure as per KTPP Act shall be followed. The tender documents can be downloaded through the website https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For any additional information the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours. **TABLE**

Sl No	Details of Works	Amount of Estimate (Rs. in Lakhs)
1)	PWD/2026-27/BR/WORK_INDENT36803	500.00
2)	PWD/2026-27/BR/WORK_INDENT37223	200.00
3)	PWD/2026-27/BR/WORK_INDENT37214	300.00
4)	PWD/2026-27/BR/WORK_INDENT37250	250.00

Note : Any changes either in tender dates or any other conditions and also re-tender, tenderers can view in KP Procurement Portal. No Separate Tender notification will be published in the News paper. in this regard.

1)Venue, Date and time of Pre Bid Meeting for the works: **30.06.2026 at 11.00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari.** 2)Last dates for queries (through KP-procurement portal: **14.06.2026 upto 12.00 Hours.** 3)Last date for submission of tenders through kp-procurement portal: **15.06.2026 upto 16.00 Hours.** 4)Date and time of opening of Technical Bids: **16.06.2026 at 16.30 Hours in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Ballari.

DIPR/Ballari/2026-27/KSMCA/RO No/284

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E- TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.: PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/26/26, Dated: 25/06/2026. PCMM/CLW/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the followings. The following E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/ likely suppliers are requested to look up the website **www.ireps.gov.in** for detailed instructions. These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl. No.; Tender No.: Description of Stores; Quantity; Due On; Tender Cost are as follows: [093]; 14262720;** Set of Pipe Saddle For WAG-9 To Drg./Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0038/F (Set Detail Attached); As Per Tender/Document; **14/07/2026;** ₹0.00. **[094]; 14262984B;** 1) Pantograph Mounting Insulator To Drg. Spec. No. CLW/ES/AC/I-1/L, CLW/ES/SK-4/AC/I-1/L,2) Roof Line Insulator To Drg./Spec. No.CLW/ES/AC /I-1/L, CLW/ES/SK-2/AC/I-1/L; As Per Tender/Document; **17/07/2026;** ₹0.00. **[095]; 25255148;** Advanced Electrosurgical unit with APC Facility; As Per Tender/Document; **23/07/2026;** ₹0.00. **[096]; 14262954;** 18 Pin UIC - Socket (Without UIC Plug) To Drg./Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0 047/E; As Per Tender/Document; **07/08/2026;** ₹0.00. **[097]; 14262649;** Set Of Metallic Pipe and Mounting T-Sensor For Main Transformer of WAG-9HC Locomotive To CLW Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0253/S (Scope of Supply as per Annexure uploaded); As Per Tender/Document; **07/08/2026;** ₹0.00. **[098]; 14262980;** LED Marker Light To Drg./Spec. No. (i) ELRS /SPEC/PR / 0022 (Rev.1, Oct 2004) except Page No. 24 & (ii) CLW/ES/SK-1/L-29 ALT-A; As Per Tender/Document; **11/08/2026;** ₹0.00. **[099]; 31262539;** Key Multiplier Set for Non-Panel (Consisting of 02 items) a) Key Multiplier - 1 for M/C compartment b) Key Multiplier - 2 for Converter Module as per Specn; CLW/ES/3/0049/F; As Per Tender/ Document; **14/08/2026;** ₹0.00. **[100]; 14262619;** Panto Disconnecting and Earthing Device To Drg./Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0008/B; As Per Tender/ Document; **17/08/2026;** ₹0.00. **[101]; 14262643;** Ball Valve G3/4" To Drg./Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0117/C; As Per Tender/ Document; **20/08/2026;** ₹0.00.

PR5/405 PCMM/CLW/Howrah

visit us on:www.facebook.com/clwrailways

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064
website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

E - TENDER NOTICE
No:RWF/M/OT/MWFPS/2026-27/34
Dated: 27/06/2026

E - TENDER: On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer invites electronic tender for the following works online through the website **http://www.ireps.gov.in (Works)**

Tender No: RWF/M/OT/MWFPS/2026-27/34Dated: 27/06/2026 **Name of the work:** Fabrication & installation of FR Conveyors in offline WFPS facility. **Estimated Value Rs.** 39,95,270.00 **EMD Rs.** 79,900.00 **Date & Time of Closing:** 20/07/2026 at 10.30 Hrs

DY. CME/W-II

E - TENDER NOTICE
No:RWF/M/OT/MMS/2026-27/35RT Dated: 27/06/2026

Tender No: RWF/M/OT/MMS/2026-27/35RT Dated: 27/06/2026 **Name of the work:** Need based replacement of filter bags, Cleaning of pleated filter bags, Cleaning of R.C.C. Tunnel of Fume extraction system no.1 and 2 and Cleaning of Duplex filters of water cooled lines of EAF -1, 2 & 3. **Estimated** Rs. 7,61,055.76 **EMD** Rs. 15,200.00 **Date & Time of Closing:** 20/07/2026 at 10.30 Hrs

E - TENDER NOTICE
No:RWF/M/OT/MMS/2026-27/36RT
Dated: 26/06/2026

Tender No: RWF/M/OT/MMS/2026-27/36RT Dated: 26/06/2026 **Name of the work:** Annual Maintenance shut-down works 2026-(Group-1) of EOT cranes and EAF's of Steel Melting Shop. **Estimated** Rs. 44,10,998.04 **EMD** Rs. 88,200.00 **Date & Time of Closing** : 18/07/2026 at 10.30 Hrs
Completion Period: 12 months
These tender notices can be viewed on our website www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

DY. CME/Melting

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Shanthinagara Division, P.U. Building, 9th Floor, M.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560 001

No: EE/SN/TEND/05/2026-27 **Date:30.06.2026**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, (Shanthinagar), BCCC invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP/KPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Government Organization for the construction of works detailed in the table below. **(Standard Tender Document - KW4)**

Sl No.	Name of works
1.	Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains and Footpath at Cubbon Road, from Dickenson Road to Queens Road, Rest Hose Roads and Cross Roads and St. Marks Road, Richmond Road Fly over and O Shaughnessy Road, Xaviour Layout Roads, Ambedkar Nagara Main / Cross Roads, Vittal Mallya, Walton Road, Prime Rose Road, Moyenville Road, Food Gowdan Road, St Michael School Road, Church Road, Swastik Road, Berlie Street, Bangiyappa Garden, Lakshmi Cross Roads, Eagle Street and Surrounding areas and Resurfacing from M.G. Road to Shooley Circle and Surrounding area in Ward No-25, 28, 31 & 27 Under Additional GOK Grants (Package-1) (No. of Works 09) **Approx Value of Works: Rs.2500 Lakhs, EMD: Rs.25,00,000/-**
2.	Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains and Footpath at Curley Street, Alfred Street, Noris Road, Wellington Street, Prime Street, Central Street, East Street, Uttregowda Street and Akithimanhalli Surrounding areas, Linganapalya, Mottappa Palya, Main Channel Road, John Bull Road, South Road, North Road, Post Office Road and Austin Town Surrounding area, Anjaneya Temple Street, Police Station Road, 3rd & 4th Main Road of Vannerpet, Gowthamapura Cross Road, G 10th Street, 13th Cross, 2nd Stage, HAL Old airport Road, 7th Cross, 1st Main Road, Amarjyothi Layout Roads, BDA Colony Roads, Dhoopanahalli Cross Road, Yogananda Paramahansa Surrounding roads, 1st Main Road, Austin Town, Swamy Vivekananda Surrounding roads, Rama Temple Road, Krishna Reddy Layout Roads and Surrounding roads in 31, 26, 29, 22, 24 & 23 in Under Additional GOK Grants. (Package-2) (No. of Works 08) **Approx Value of Works: Rs.2400 Lakhs, EMD: Rs.24,00,000/-**

Calendar of Events : (1) Pre Bid meeting will be held on **10.07.2026** at **3:30** pm in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Shanthinagar Division, 9th Floor, P.U Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560001. (2) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **17.07.2026** upto **4:00** pm. (3) Date of Opening of the Technical Bid Tenders is on **18.07.2026** after **4:30** pm.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Shanthinagara

BENGALURU NORTH CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Pulikeshi Nagar Division, Robertson Road, Bengaluru

No.: EE/(PN)/TEND/PR/08/2026-27 **Date: 30.06.2026**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only-Two Cover System)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors of equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Of Roads, Drain & CC Road In Muslim Colony, Chikkanna Block, Karumariyamma Nagar BDA Layout Hanifia Masjid Cross Roads, Rama Temple Cross Roads & Anwar Layout Main Road Cross Road, P&T Colony Cross Roads, YM Public School Back Side, Malik Sab Lane Roads, Ajjugalli Cross Roads Quba Masjid, Ashok Nagar, Muneshwaranagar Cross Roads, Gavau garden Main Road & Cross roads, Urdu School, D.J. Halli Market Road & D.J. Halli Main Road upto Bangaragiri Layout Dead End S.K.Garden & Surrounding areas & Improvements and Upgradation in and around Coles Park, Williams town Park & Old Bagalur Layout park & Lal Bahadur Shastri College near & L.R. Bande In Ward No 47 Pulikeshinagar, ward no 48 S.K. Garden & Ward No 46 Sagayapuram, 38 Shampura, 39 Kavalbyrasandra & Providing of New name boards in ward No 38 Shampura, 39 Kavalbyrasandra, 40 Shakthi Nagar, 41 Periyar Nagar, 42 Aruna Asif Ali, 43 Varalakshmi nagar, 44 Doddannanagar, 45 KushalNagar, 46 Sagayapuram, 47 Pulikeshinagar, 48 S.K.Garden Package no 01 (Govt Sl No. 80, 82, 79, 83, 9, 86, 76). **Amount Put to Tender in Lakhs: 4850.00, EMD Amount: RS 48,50,000/- (1.00 lakh through e- payment (NEFT) balance Rs. 47,50,000/- through BG/FDR, should be submit before opening of Technical bid).**
2	Comprehensive Develoment of RCC Drains & Improvements to Footpath & asphalting roads to Main and Cross Roads of Richards Town (John Armstrong Road & Viviani road), Pillanna garden Main & Cross Roads Main Road , Cross Roads in Ward No 45 KushalNagar & 40 Shakthi Nagar Clarke Road, Cookson Road Surrounding area in Ward No 46 Sagayapuram Package no 02 (Govt Sl No. 78, 84, 87). **Amount Put to Tender in Lakhs: 2050.00, EMD Amount: RS 20,50,000/- (1.00 lakh through e- payment (NEFT) balance Rs. 19,50,000/- through BG/FDR, BG /FDR should be submit before opening of Technical bid).**
3	Construction Of RCC Drains & Asphalting Work & Paver Footpath In Adarsh Nagar, Anand Gokul Layout Cross Road Of KHB Road, Ranka Nagar & 1st Main, 2nd Main, 3rd & 4th Cross Chinana Layout And 2nd Main Cross Roads In Ambedkar Layout, Masjid Street, Promenade Road, Clevaland Road & Wheelers Road & Surrounding Area In Ward No 38 Shampura & Ward no 39 Kavalbyrasandra, 48 S.K.Garden & 47 Pulikeshinagar Package no 03 (Govt Sl No. 75, 81, 85, 77). **Amount Put to Tender in Lakhs: 3000.00, EMD Amount: RS 31,00,000/- (1.00 lakh through e- payment (NEFT) balance Rs. 30,00,000/- through BG/FDR, BG /FDR should be submit before opening of Technical bid).**

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from KPPP portal: **02.07.2026, (2)** Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on **03.07.2026** at **3:00 p.m.** in the office of the Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagar Division, Robertson Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560005, **(3)** Last Date & Time for Receipts of tenders: **08.07.2026** up to **4:00 p.m. (4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **09.07.2026** after **4:30 p.m. (5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **After Approval of Technical Bid.** Further details may be obtained from the above office, during office hours or website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, Pulikeshi Nagar Division, Zone-1, Kavalbyrasandra Division, Zone-1, Bengaluru North City Corporation

Oppn writes to CJI, alleges SIR being conducted by 'biased' EC

DMK, AAP Sign Letter Despite Not Being Part Of INDIA Bloc

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

File photo

The letter has been signed by key opposition members – Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, TMC leader Mamata Banerjee, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, and others

New Delhi: 23 opposition parties Tuesday sent a letter to the Chief Justice India raising concern about various aspects of the SIR exercise, taking forward their battle against the revision of electoral rolls that they allege is being conducted by a "biased" election commission to help the ruling BJP.

DMK and AAP have also signed the letter to the Chief Justice, despite not being part of the INDIA bloc.

The two parties did not attend the meeting of the opposition alliance on June 8 where the decision to write the joint letter was taken – raising the morale in the anti-BJP camp ahead of the monsoon session of Parliament.

AICC spokesman Jairam Ramesh posted on X, "A joint letter signed by 23 political parties plus one Independent has been sent to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India today."

The letter has been signed by key opposition members — Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, TMC leader Mamata Banerjee, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, JMM's Hemant Soren, NC's Omar Abdullah, Left leaders, and Independent MP Kapil Sibal, among others.

The INDIA bloc did not release the letter. But, sources said, it appeals to the conscience of the judiciary, arguing that it is the only route of relief left for the opposition. The letter is likely to have questioned the role of the Election Commission. While clarifying that it is not casting aspersions on the judiciary, the letter is said to argue that various aspects of SIR make it vulnerable to manipulation.

According to an opposition functionary, the quality of SIR data in states like West Bengal has been mentioned.

The instances of wrong data, like deceased persons in the electoral rolls, have been pointed out by the opposition parties in the past to question the fairness of the exercise. Also, sources said, the opposition has mentioned the varied timeline of SIR in different states, including the election-bound ones, to underline arbitrariness, with examples of Bihar and Tamil Nadu. The opposition wants a calendar for completing the SIR.

Shah launches FCRA 2.0 portal, e-OCI card

Bharti.Jain@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Home Minister **Amit Shah** on Tuesday launched the refurbished FCRA portal that offers NGOs a fully digitised framework to apply for registration and renewal of licence under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, file compliance details and avail other services. At the same time, by integrating FCRA architecture with other govt databases including Aadhaar, PAN and Darpan, FCRA 2.0 portal enables real-time monitoring of foreign contributions and enforcement actions by govt.

The updated FCRA portal was unveiled even as opposition parties are up in arms over recent amendments in FCRA rules. Home minister also launched on Tuesday the e-overseas citizen of India (e-OCI) card that will allow members of Indian diaspora to avail all OCI services online — covering application, documentation and download of the digitally generated card after approval.

This will benefit 50 lakh OCI holders worldwide. Under the new arrangement, the requirement to re-issue the OCI booklet upon receiving a new passport after the age of 20 years has been done away with.

Addressing the launch event for FCRA 2.0 portal and e-OCI card, Shah said both the initiatives will further the convenience of citizens, in alignment with Narendra Modi govt's 'minimum govt, maximum governance' mantra. "When the intention behind the digital transformation is clear, the policy is transparent and there is a mindset to embrace technology, then all forms of governance become very easy for honest people, a strict surveillance system is put in place for wrongdoers and the country can be made increasingly secure," he stated.

Minister recalled how prior to 2014, FCRA system was mired in files and procedures, preventing proper oversight "which is critical for national security and development".

Given the steady rise in FCRA applications and flow of donations over the years, he said FCRA 2.0 will eliminate the need for NGOs to physically submit documents, besides offering facilities like e-sign-based authentication.

5 ex-ministers, 15 ex-MLAs from AIADMK to join TVK

Julie.Mariappan
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: At least five former AIADMK ministers, 15 former MLAs and hundreds of district functionaries and cadres will join TVK on Thursday. The former ministers include C Vijayabaskar, M R Vijayabhaskar, M S M Anandan and S Valarmathi. Aadhav Arjuna will welcome them at a private hotel in Mahabalipuram at 10am. The former ministers may meet chief minister C Joseph Vijay. Former MLAs Ilambai R Tamilselvan, M Ramkumar and S V Thirugnanasambandam, along with Tiruchuli AIADMK candidate M S R Rajavarman, who lost to DMK leader Thangam Thennarasu, are also expected to join TVK.

Vijayabaskar said more than 15,000 cadres and functionaries from Karur and Pudukkottai would leave AIADMK and join TVK, citing dissatisfaction with party leadership. "One can understand how upset the cadres are when they are coming in more than 200 buses and travelling nearly seven hours to join TVK. Pudukkottai and Karur district units are joining en masse," the former health minister told TOI. Vijayabaskar, among the senior functionaries alongside S P Velumani and P Thangamani, had urged AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami in Dec to align with TVK ahead of the assembly election.

The group also took up the matter with the BJP national leadership, but EPS did not agree to the proposal. His post-poll alliance decisions prompted Vijayabaskar to lead a rebellion along with former ministers C Ve Shanmugam and Velumani.

Aaditya Thackeray confidante Ahir joins Shinde Sena

Chaitanya Marpakwar and Mahiyar Patel | TNN

PTI

Shiv Sena leader Sachin Ahir with Maharashtra dy CM Eknath Shinde during a press meet, in Mumbai, Tuesday

Mumbai: In a fresh and major setback for the Shiv Sena (UBT), its MLC Sachin Ahir on Tuesday filed his nomination for election to the post of deputy chairperson of the legislative council from Dy CM Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena, effectively switching over to the Shinde-led party. A former MLA from Aaditya Thackeray's Worli assembly constituency, Ahir was considered close to Aaditya.

Ahir was earlier an NCP MLA from Worli and had joined the undivided Shiv Sena before the 2019 assembly polls. Sena (UBT) MLC JM Abhyankar filed his nomination as MVA nominee for the council deputy chairperson's post. The poll will be held on Wednesday, but the Mahayuti with its numbers is expected to win easily.

With Ahir leaving, Sena (UBT) is left with just 5 MLCs in the council. Legislature officials said the nomination for the deputy chairperson's poll is not filed through any political party, so it would not attract the anti-defection law.

Officials also said Ahir was elected as MLC of the undivided Shiv Sena in 2022, so he could not be disqualified now.

Shinde said last week six (UBT Sena) MPs had come to the Sena "and hit sixes, and now Sachin Ahir has hit sixes."

"Some people went to the constituencies of the 6 MPs. Sachin Ahir welcomed them by hitting sixes. Fours and sixes will continue and the wickets will keep falling," Shinde said.

Ahir filed his nomination in the presence of CM Devendra Fadnavis and Dy CMs Shinde and Sunetra Pawar, among others.

Hitting back, Aaditya said this is not 'Operation Tiger' but 'Operation Devendra Fadnavis'. "Those to whom we gave everything, they left for selfish reasons," he said. Ahir also resigned as president of Bharatiya Kamgar Sena, Sena (UBT) workers' union.

Pjb woman throws 3 kids into canal; 2 bodies found

Barinderjit.Saluja
@timesofindia.com

Mohali: A woman allegedly threw her three young children into Sirhind canal in Punjab's Mohali after taking them out on the pretext of showing them a fair. Police and rescuers Tuesday found the bodies of her 10-year-old son and 6-year-old daughter and a search is on for her youngest, a 4-year-old boy.

According to police, the woman had been under depression since her husband died by suicide around 10 months ago. Her in-laws reported to police Monday that she had left home with her three children and hadn't returned. They feared she had thrown them into the canal.

DSP Gurcharan Singh said search teams were immediately deployed. Ropar police said she had jumped into the canal as well but was rescued by locals. Two bodies were found in the Ropar stretch of the canal.

The DSP said police were investigating all angles and would share information only after facts were verified. The woman has been sent to hospital as she appears to be mentally unwell, said police. Police have cautioned against drawing conclusions at this stage, noting the allegations were yet to be established.

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India
Ahmedabad
Applications invited from trainers, educators & mentors for
Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Awards 2026
◆Award Categories
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• New Age Entrepreneurship
• Social Entrepreneurship
Last date to apply 31st July, 2026
For details & to apply
www.ediindia.org | award.ediindia.org

SBI
REHBU Department, 8th Floor, Corporate Centre,
State Bank Bhavan, Madam Cama road, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400021
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
RFP NO: SBI: REHBU/RFP/PD/2026-27/001 DATED: 01.07.2026
Bids are invited by State Bank of India from the eligible bidders for Engagement of Service Provider for Due Diligence of NRI Home Loan Customers. Bidders, who are interested to submit bids, visit Procurement News at https://sbi.bank.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/procurement-news and e-Procurement agency portal https://etender.sbi. Corrigendum/ addendum, if any in the matter will be published only on the Bank's above website.
Commencement of download of RFP: From 01.07.2026
Last date and time for submission of bids: 24.07.2026 up to 15:00 hrs
Dy. General Manger (RE-PD)

श्री चित्रा तिरुनाल आयुर्विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, त्रिवेंद्रम केरल- 695 011, भारत
SREE CHITRA TIRUNAL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY, TRIVANDRUM, KERALA – 695 011, INDIA
(एक राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान, विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, भारत सरकार)
(An Institution of National Importance, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India)
No.DAA/SCTIMST/Admission (August 2026)/2026 Dated: 01.07.2026
ADMISSION NOTICE FOR ACADEMIC SESSION - AUGUST 2026
Applications are invited for admission to
1. Postdoctoral Fellowship in Bioastronautics
2. Postdoctoral Fellowship in Electroencephalography.
Apply online. Please visit our website for more details (www.sctimst.ac.in). Online application will be available from 02.07.2026 to 24.07.2026.
Reservation will be followed as per Govt. of India policy. Application fee payable only through online.
For more details contact: Registrar, SCTIMST
(email: regoffice@sctimst.ac.in), Tel: 0471 – 2524269/ 289/649
Sd/- DIRECTOR

MSME-TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
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EV SCOOTER MASTER CLASS
Course Content: • EV Basics & Architecture • Battery Technology, BMS • Charging System • Motor & Controller • Wiring And Electrical • Electronic & Sensor Systems • Diagnostics & Troubleshooting • Calculations & Performance • Safety & Handling • Complete Assembly of E- Scooter.
Date/ दिनांक: 4th &5th July 2026. (offline Program) (sat & sun)
Time/ समय: 10.00am to 4.00pm
Fees/ शुल्क: Rs. 4000/-
Venue/ स्थान: Havana yuktha solutions, 302, 66th cross, 5th block Rajajinagar Bangalore -560010.
Bring one passport size photo,aadhar and qualification photocopy
Contact Number: 9626516812, 9750747571, 6363055419.
Certificate will be awarded.

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
SHORT TERM N.I.T. No. 07/2026-27
Tenders are invited from reputed contractors registered in appropriate class with RRVPNL and A & AA class in Central/State Govt. Department and their undertakings and registered in GST department for the Bid S. No. 1 of NIT 07 under Executive Engineer (Civil) Udaipur. All details of above NIB are available on website www.rvpn.co.in & https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in or https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.
UBN No. : VPN2627WSOB00807
Superintending Engineer (Civil), Udaipur
Raj.Samwad/C/26/5871 R.R.V.P.N./TR-7648/2026

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Public Enterprises Selection Board invites applications for the post of
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in
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited
Last date of submission of application by applicants is by 15:00 hours on 21/07/2026
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by 17:00 hours on 30/07/2026
For details login to website https://pesb.gov.in

टाटा मूलभूत अनुसंधान संस्थान
tifr TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH
होमी भाभा रोड, कुलाबा, मुंबई–400005/Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai 400005
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An Autonomous Institute of the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India, and a Deemed-to-be University
विज्ञापन सं. 2026/16 / Advertisement No. 2026/16
Invites attention to the availability of faculty positions in the Institute. For details, please visit the website http://www.tifr.res.in/positions.
कुलसचिव, टीआईएफआर / Registrar, TIFR

pfrda पेंशन निधि विनियामक और विकास प्राधिकरण
PENSION FUND REGULATORY AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
E-500, Tower E, 5th Floor, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029
Engagement of a Legal Adviser in Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) on Contract Basis.
Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) is a statutory regulatory body established by Parliament of India under the PFRDA Act (23 of 2013) and set up under Ministry of Finance, Government of India with the mandate to promote, develop and regulate pension sector in India.
PFRDA invites applications for the position of Legal Adviser purely on contract basis, for an initial period of two (02) years at a remuneration/consolidated payment of Rs. 3 Lacs per month. Details of requisite qualification and experience along with terms and conditions of engagement for the post may be seen at PFRDA website: www.pfrda.org.in.
The applications in the specified format, complete in all respect, must be submitted on or before 23.07.2026. PFRDA reserves the right to modify/cancel/terminate the exercise at any stage as may be considered appropriate by the Authority.
General Manager (Human Resources)

राष्ट्रीय विधि विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय, धारवाड कैम्पस
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS राष्ट्रीय न्यायालयिक विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय, धारवाड कैम्पस
National Forensic Sciences University, Dharwad Campus
(An Institution of National Importance, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)
RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION
Advt. No. NFSU/DHARWAD/ADM/REC/CF/2026-27/1 Date: 25.06.2026
National Forensic Sciences University, Dharwad Campus invites applications from eligible candidates for various Teaching Positions on a contractual basis. The Application Form and detailed Advertisement are available at https://www.nfsu.ac.in/career.

S.N	Post	Domain/Field	No. of Post(s)
1	Assistant Professor	Forensic Science	01
2	Assistant Professor	Computer Science/ Information Technology/ Cyber Security	04
3	Assistant Professor	Pharmacology	01
		Total	06

The last date for submission of online application is July 09, 2026, 05:00 PM.
Date: 30.06.2026
-Sd-
Campus Director
NFSU Dharwad Campus

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम
(श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
पंचदीप भवन, सी.आई.जी. मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110002
PANCHDEEP BHAWAN, C.I.G. MARG, NEW DELHI-02
E-mail: jd-rectt@esic.gov.in
Website: www.esic.gov.in
ENGAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL STRATEGIC CONSULTANTS
Employees' State Insurance Corporation, under the administrative control of Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, proposes to fill up one post of Senior Strategic Consultant on contractual basis.
The detailed advertisement having details of Pay structure, Age, Eligibility Criteria — Educational Qualification, Experience etc. and other terms and conditions is available on the website of ESIC www.esic.gov.in. The candidates willing to apply for above posts are advised to refer to the detailed advertisement.
Last date of receipt of applications is within 30 days from the date of publication of the advertisement.
हस्ता/–
संयुक्त निदेशक (भर्ती)

Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Limited
CIN U40102GJ2003SGC042909
Regd. & Corp. Office : 'Urja Sadan',
N. V. Road, Kapodara Char Rasta, Surat 395 006 GUJARAT
DGVCL Toll Free No. 19123 (or 1800 233 3003)
Tender Notice
Tenders are invited for work of appointment of agency for "Site survey including underground utility verification, Engineering, Procurement, Supply, Loading, Transportation, Unloading, Insurance, Delivery at Site, Handling, Storage, Installation, Testing, Commissioning Including Documentation of All Items/Material required to complete works for Turnkey Based Contract For Conversion of Existing LT Line Network Including Consumer Service Lines Into Under Ground Cable Network using FSP/MSP & Ring Main System at anywhere in Surat District Under DGVCL with GIS Mapping / Geo Urja Mapping (Developed by GUVNL) and Asset Tagging under Gujarat Wire Free City Mission (GWFCM)". Details are available on www.dgvcl.com (for view and download tender documents) & https://tender.nprocure.com (for view, download and online tender submission). Tender names and estimated amount (in Rs. Cr.) are as under:
1. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Gothan - 13.15 2. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Kosad-A - 18.91 3. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Kosad-B - 34.65 4. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Mota Varachha - 24.16 5. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Utran - 26.14 6. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Devadh-A - 15.23 7. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Devadh-B - 30.54 8. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Dindoli-A - 23.90 9. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Dindoli-B - 34.61 10. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Godadara-A - 18.71 11. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Godadara-B - 28.86 12. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Limbayat-A - 21.39 13. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Limbayat-B - 27.67 14. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Pandesara - 18.68 15. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Pramukh Park - 9.53 16. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Udhana-1 - 25.81 17. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Udhana-2 - 39.72 18. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Udhana-3 - 37.74 19. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Udhna Rural-A - 25.02 20. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Udhna Rural-B - 25.09 21. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Althan-A - 36.48 22. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Althan-B - 41.82 23. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Bamroli - 44.65 24. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Ichchhapore - 32.54 25. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Magdalla-A - 31.75 26. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Magdalla-B - 45.27 27. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Piplod-A - 25.08 28. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Piplod-B - 20.13 29. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Vadod - 26.22 30. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Adajan - 35.64 31. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Amroli-A - 29.88 32. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Amroli-B - 25.41 33. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Pal - 23.47 34. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Palanpore - 31.22 35. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Ramanagar - 44.84 36. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Rander Town-2A - 35.77 37. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Rander Town-2B - 21.08 38. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Rander-1 - 29.64 39. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Kansad Rural-A - 28.98 40. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Kansad Rural-B - 22.76 41. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Kharvasa - 10.53 42. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Oon-A - 21.24 43. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Oon-B - 31.00 44. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Sachin Urban-A - 29.89 45. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Sachin Urban-B - 24.40 46. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Sachin-2 - 4.75 47. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Kathor - 48.07 48. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Kapodra - 31.69 49. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Laskana - 17.53 50. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Pasodara - 20.73 51. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Puna-A - 32.96 52. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Puna-B - 23.35 53. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Saroli-A - 25.52 54. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Saroli-B - 25.75 55. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Sarthana-A - 22.25 56. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Sarthana-B - 31.49 57. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Simada-A - 27.19 58. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Simada-B - 18.53 59. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Yogichowk-A - 21.17 60. DGVCL/O&M/GWFCM/2026-27/Yogichowk-B - 20.35.
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TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026

WE MUST ACCEPT FINITE DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT NEVER LOSE INFINITE HOPE — MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

CARA DELEVINGNE SAYS SHE DATED AMBER HEARD THROUGH JOHNNY DEPP DIVORCE: 'HE WAS DRIVEN CRAZY BY JEALOUSY'

KEVIN SPACEY ON SEXUAL ASSAULT CHARGES AND HIS RETURN TO H'WOOD: 'NEVER SAID THERE WAS NO FIRE, FEEL MORE WELCOMED'

Indian-American activists call SC ruling a win for immigrant families

Say It Keeps Constitutional Promise Of Equal Protection

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: US President Donald Trump signed the executive order on his first day back in office to deny citizenship to children born to parents who are in the US unlawfully or temporarily, arguing that children born to undocumented immigrants or temporary visa holders are not "subject to the jurisdiction" of the US and therefore do not qualify for automatic citizenship under the 14th Amendment.

The order was challenged by states, immigrant-rights organisations and affected families, and every lower court to consider the issue blocked its enforcement before the dispute reached the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court Tuesday upheld a broad conception of birthright citizenship.

Justice Brett Kavanaugh concurred in the judgment on narrower statutory grounds, producing a 6-3 result invalidating the executive order, while leaving a five-justice majority squarely reaffirming the constitutional guarantee of birthright citizenship. The ruling reaffirmed more than a century of constitutional precedent dating to the Supreme Court's landmark 1898 decision in United States vs Wong Kim Ark, which has long been understood to interpret the Citizenship Clause of the 14th Amendment as extending automatic citizenship to almost all children born in the US, with narrow exceptions such as the children of foreign diplomats.

The dissent, led by Justice Clarence Thomas and joined by Justices Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch, argued that the majority had extended the Citizenship Clause beyond what the Reconstruction Congress intended after the Civil War. Thomas wrote that the 14th Amendment was enacted principally to guarantee citizenship to formerly enslaved people and contended that the court had transformed it into a protection for circumstances "the Reconstruction Congress never contemplated".

The ruling immediately reverberated through American politics, the decision seen as representing another judicial setback for President Trump after the court earlier invalidated key elements of his global tariff policy. The birthright citizenship decision nevertheless removes one of the administration's signature immigration initiatives from the executive branch's reach. Constitutional scholars across the ideological spectrum have long argued that changing birthright citizenship would almost certainly require either a constitutional amendment or a dramatic reversal of settled Supreme Court precedent rather than executive action alone. Amending the Constitution would require approval by two-thirds of both Houses of Congress and ratification by three-fourths of the states, an exceptionally high political hurdle.

Indian-American activists celebrated the ruling, calling it "a landmark victory for immigrant families (that) reaffirms the constitutional promise of equal protection". "Indian and South Asian immigrant families are among those most directly threatened by Trump's executive order — communities navigating long visa backlogs and uncertain immigration timelines, where children are often born here long before their parents have a clear path to permanence. Today, the Supreme Court looked at those families and said: your children are American. They belong here," said Chintan Patel, executive director of Indian American Impact.

Conservative legal reaction was more divided. Originalist scholars sympathetic to the administration argued that the court missed an opportunity to revisit what they regard as an overly expansive interpretation of the Citizenship clause. Other conservative constitutional lawyers, however, acknowledged that the Wong Kim Ark ruling has been deeply embedded in American constitutional law for generations, and that overturning such precedent would have created legal uncertainty. Liberal scholars hailed the decision as a reaffirmation of textual fidelity, historical practice and judicial restraint.

The US is home to about 14 million undocumented immigrants, in addition to millions who come on work visas such as H-1B. They have given birth to millions of US-citizen children. According to the Pew Research Center there are more than six million people born in the U.S who live with at least one unauthorised immigrant parent. Immigration advocates have long argued that immigration and assimilation is central to American history and birthright citizenship is central to it.

For the Trump administration, the ruling is unlikely to end the political debate. Republicans are expected to continue pressing Congress for statutory immigration reforms and may renew calls for a constitutional amendment. The decision leaves intact one of the defining features of US constitutional law while ensuring that birthright citizenship will remain a potent issue in the immigration politics.

US NOT THE ONLY COUNTRY TO OFFER BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP

The US is one of about 30 countries — mostly in Americas — that grant automatic citizenship to anyone born within their borders. In contrast, many countries in Asia, Europe, and parts of Africa adhere to the jus sanguinis (right of blood) principle, where children inherit their nationality from their parents, regardless of their birthplace. Countries from Germany to Australia have a mixed approach, using a variety of principles, including parenthood, place of birth, residency and ethnicity, to decide a child's citizenship

How did birthright citizenship start in US? Birthright citizenship became a law in the US in 1868 when the 14th Amendment was ratified in the aftermath of the Civil War, in part to ensure that former slaves would be citizens

US v Wong Kim Ark In late 1800s, in the case of Wong Kim Ark, a man born in the US to Chinese parents, it was expanded to include children of immigrants. In later cases, SC ruled that anyone born in US is a citizen, including if their parents are in the US illegally or temporarily

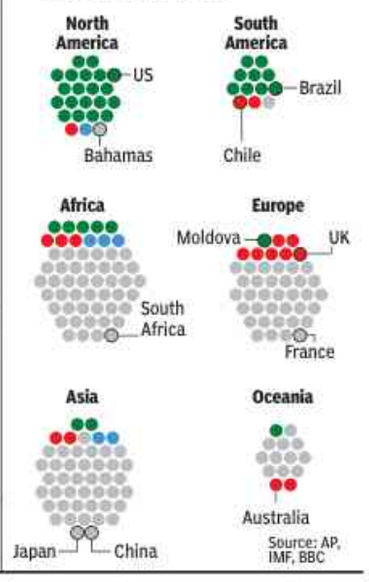
Citizenship laws across the world

- By birthplace
- By family line
- Mixed policy

No data for areas shown in grey

Countries citizenship laws at birth in 2024 by continent

- Birthright citizenship
- Restrictions based on parent's residence
- Parents must belong to particular group, race or religion
- No citizenship granted



Source: AP, IMF, BBC

SC strikes down limits on party spending in federal elections

Washington: The Supreme Court on Tuesday erased limits on how much political parties can spend in coordination with candidates for Congress and president, striking down a federal election law that is more than 50 years old.

Prodded by a Republican-led lawsuit that includes V-P JD Vance, the court's conservative justices were again in the majority of the latest decision that upended congressionally enacted limits on raising and spending money to influence elections. The court's 2010 Citizens United decision opened the door to unlimited independent spending in federal elections. The SC had previously upheld the limits in 2001.

The Republican committees for House and Senate candidates filed the lawsuit in Ohio in 2022, joined by Vance, then a senator from Ohio, and then-Rep. Steve Chabot. After President Trump took office for his second term, the Federal Election Commission dropped its defence of the law and joined with Republicans in urging it be overturned. Democrats had called on the court to uphold the law. Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform after the ruling: "The SC just took restrictions off political spending! A BIG WIN FOR REPUBLICANS and, more importantly, The First Amendment!" AP

SC upholds state bans on trans athletes in school

Washington: The US Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld state laws barring transgender athletes from competing in girls' and women's school sports, delivering a major victory to conservatives in one of the country's most fiercely contested culture-war battles.

The decision allows Idaho, West Virginia and more than two dozen other Republican-led states to enforce measures requiring students to compete in public school and college teams according to their sex assigned at birth rather than their gender identity. The ruling is the latest sign of the conservative-dominated court's willingness to side with states on the issue, following last year's decision upholding Tennessee's ban on gender-affirming care for minors.

President Donald Trump applauded the decision as a "big win," posting on his Truth Social platform that the court had taken "that ridiculous situation off the table."

The cases before the court were brought by transgender students who argued that the bans violated the US Constitution's equal protection guarantee and Title IX, the federal civil rights law barring sex discrimination in education. AFP

US envoys reach Qatar for Iran meeting with tensions high over Strait of Hormuz

Dubai: Two US envoys arrived in Qatar on Tuesday for talks with mediators about the implementation of an initial deal to end the war in Iran, an official said. The visit by Steve Witkoff, US President Trump's special Mideast envoy, and Jared Kushner, his son-in-law, comes after a weekend of crossfire in the Persian Gulf over efforts to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

The envoys won't be having direct negotiations with Iranian diplomats while in Qatar's capital, Doha, said Majed al-Ansari, a spokesman for Qatar's foreign ministry. Instead, mediators are working for the time being as go-betweens for the talks, which won't include any high-level officials, he added.

Such indirect negotiations have happened in the past. However, the two previous rounds of talks collapsed into the 12-day war Israel launched against Iran in 2025 and the recent Iran war. "We're not expecting any high-level Iranian officials at the moment, but as I said, the technical meetings are ongoing," al-Ansari told journalists.

Iran was also sending a delegation to Qatar this week. Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said Tuesday that Iran has had no plans for a meeting with the American side in the coming days. "What will take place in Doha is a discussion with the Qatari side about implementing parts of the memorandum of understanding," Baghaei told journalists. AP

AFP

Jared Kushner and Steve Witkoff

Only China buying Iranian oil: Bessent

US treasury secretary Scott Bessent said Tuesday that most nations aren't yet ready to purchase Iranian oil, wary over the potential of the US reimposing sanctions, and that this is an incentive for Tehran to negotiate with Washington. "The Iranians have not been able to sell their oil, because the buyers are a little wary of, will it be re-sanctioned," Bessent said. "No one other than China, who was already buying it when it was sanctioned, has bought it, so it's still trading at a discount." Bessent said "this is a reason for the Iranians to embrace these negotiations." BLOOMBERG

Starmer unveils £15bn plan to modernise UK military

London: British PM **Keir Starmer** pledged Tuesday to spend an extra £15 billion to modernise UK's depleted armed forces in a long-delayed investment plan that is designed to prepare for future wars and mark his legacy.

In what is most likely his last major policy announcement, Starmer said the Defence Investment Plan went further than a previous draft that prompted his ally, John Healey, to resign as defence minister. Healey had accused Starmer of failing to secure enough money to keep Britain safe.

Starmer will take his plan — which foresees spending of nearly £80 billion a year by 2029 — to Ankara for a Nato meeting on July 7 to 8, where he will want to signal that Britain was on the path to meet its commitment to reach defence spending of 3.5% of GDP by 2035.

But with his expected successor, Andy Burnham, due to take power as soon as July 20, he acknowledged that new govts could "build" on his blueprint. Some critics said the plan, delayed for more than nine months, was too little, too late.

"When the world is arming and aggression is rising, the best way to avoid war is to prepare for it, the best way to defend is to deter — to have the strength to make your adversaries to think again before they act," Starmer said. Starmer said his blueprint would offer funding of £5 billion for investment in drones and autonomous weapons, create a hybrid navy and make the army more lethal. REUTERS

Don't broadcast Hasina speeches: B'desh warns its media outlets

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: Tarique Rahman-led BNP govt on Tuesday warned of action against Bangladeshi media outlets if they broadcast Awami League chief **Sheikh Hasina**'s statements.

The caution from prime ministerial adviser for information and broadcast Zahed Ur Rahman came in the backdrop of a section of Bangladeshi media covering Hasina's recent interview to an Indian news channel, in which she asserted she will return "this year".

He also told a press conference that there is no scope for the banned Awami League to carry out political activities whether it is by itself or under the name of another outfit, such as "refined or new Awami League, or Trinamool Awami League". It is also inappropriate to broadcast her statements until court lifts the ban on her speeches, Zahed said, adding that despite this "many media outlets are still broadcasting them, and this means they are defying court orders".

Meanwhile, Bangladesh's main opposition party JeI and its ally NCP have announced separate month-long programmes from July 2 and July 1, respectively, to mark the second anniversary of the 'uprising' as well as press their demands including expediting trials of those responsible for killings during the 'uprising'.

14 Pak kids killed as roof of coaching centre collapses

Lahore: A roof collapse at a tutoring centre under-construction in Pakistan's Lahore on Tuesday killed at least 14 schoolchildren, police officials said. Eight other children were also injured and were being treated at a hospital, senior police official Faisal Kamran said, adding that the owner of the tutoring centre and another person have been arrested.

Kamran said rescuers were searching through the rubble after receiving reports that more children could be trapped beneath the debris. He said the tutoring centre was housed in an aging building and that the roof of an unfinished second floor collapsed because of poor-quality construction. AP

PIO absolved of using AI, wins Commonwealth prize

Naomi Canton

London: A Trinidadian writer with ancestral roots in Bihar accused of using AI to write his entry to the Commonwealth short story prize has been declared the overall winner. **Jamir Nazir** (62) from Cunupia, Trinidad, whose grandfather was from Bihar, on Tuesday won for his story "The Serpent in the Grove".

Within days of him being declared a regional winner in May, internet sleuths had put his story through AI checkers and declared on social media it was written by AI, with some claiming it was "100% AI generated". The controversy led to literary magazine Granta announcing it would no longer publish the winning entries of the annual Commonwealth short story prize on its website.

Nazir explained that chronic health conditions had made desk typing challenging, so he has developed his own writing process using speech-to text tools and his Android phone. His winning story is about an impoverished farmer struggling to support his wife and child who becomes obsessed with a woman who works in a rum shack.

Razmi Farook, director-general of the Commonwealth Foundation, said: "We have spent the past month thoroughly investigating allegations of AI use. We held detailed discussions with all regional winners about their creative process, and they collaborated fully. We also examined evidence related to the development of their stories, including working drafts, time-stamped documents and notes. We are satisfied that AI was not used to write the winning stories."

US finalises alien registration rule: H-1B holders need not register again, children turning 14 must

Lubna Kably | TNN

The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has finalised its alien registration regulations, making it clear that H-1B professionals, international students, green card holders and those who are already considered registered do not have to undergo the online registration process introduced last year.

The Final Rule, issued on Monday night (India time), does not impose any fresh registration obligations or widen the categories of foreign nationals required to register. Instead, it formally adopts the online registration framework that has been in force since April 2025 and clarifies certain aspects of the rule after considering public comments.

For thousands of Indian families in the US, the most significant clarification concerns

DHS clarified that children who are lawful permanent residents need not complete online registration after turning 14

dependent children. DHS has now stated that foreign national children who turn 14 while in the US and will remain there for 30 days or more must register or re-register online within 30 days of their fourteenth birthday and undergo biometric collection, even if they had been registered earlier.

Mitch Wexler, senior counsel at Fragomen, a global immigration law firm told **TOI**, "The clarification is relevant for children of H-1B professionals, L-1 executives, international students and temporary visa holders who entered the US before turning 14. When the registration system was implemented last year, there was an element of ambiguity which now stands clarified."

DHS also clarified that children who are lawful permanent residents (green card holders) need not complete the online registration after turning 14. They will meet the re-registration requirement by filing Form I-90 to replace their green card, as already required under existing law.

The agency emphasised that the Final Rule does not alter the scope of the registration requirement. Foreign nationals who entered the US on a valid visa or were issued an I-94 admission record, Employment Authorisation Document (EAD), green card or other qualifying immigration document continue to be regarded as already registered and are exempt from the separate online registration process. However, they must continue to carry proof of their immigration status and report change of address.

The online registration requirement primarily impacts foreign nationals without lawful immigration status (illegal or undocumented immigrants). According to DHS, there were 2.2 lakh illegal immigrants from India as of 2022.

The registration regime stems from President Donald Trump's Jan 2025 executive order directing DHS to strictly enforce longstanding alien registration laws. DHS subsequently introduced the online registration process through an Interim Final Rule in March 2025. Subsequently in April, a district court had rejected a request from several immigration advocacy groups to block the rule, concluding that the plaintiffs lacked the legal standing necessary to pursue their case.

DAILY PLANET

AFP

BEAT THE HEAT: Children play in a fountain on a hot summer day in Kyiv as the European heatwave shifts east to the Balkans and Ukraine

Yodelers at Swiss fest forced to sing in fountains to beat the heat

City fountains became impromptu rehearsal spaces this weekend as yodelers at a festival in Basel, Switzerland, squeezed in last-minute practice while cooling off during Europe's June heat wave. At one fountain, a folk band dipped their toes in the water on Saturday, as festival goers clapped along or cooled their hands under the flowing stream. From Friday to Sunday, singers and alphorn players filled the streets and spontaneous bursts of yodeling echoed through restaurants, where diners initially reacted with surprise before joining in. In Petersplatz, in central Basel, seamstresses remained on call throughout the festival to repair the traditional Alpine folk costumes worn by participants in case of emergency. This year, however, it was the fountain rehearsals that became the festival's defining image, as the city battled record temperatures of around 39°C.

Another suspected fatal bear attack in Japan: Japanese police are investigating another suspected fatal bear attack, a local official told AFP on Tuesday, as the number of such deaths remains unusually high. Bear attacks have been on the rise in Japan in recent years, something scientists attribute to a spike in the animals' population and a declining number of people in rural areas. Authorities in northern Aomori prefecture said on Monday that a man found dead on a mountain that day may have been attacked by a bear. "Police are still investigating the cause" of the man's death, but bear bite marks had been found on his body, a local official told AFP on Tuesday.

France to illuminate Statue of Liberty on July 4: France will stage an elaborate light show at the Statue of Liberty to mark the 250th anniversary of the US, the French consulate said Monday. Described as a "monumental artistic creation," the show will be recorded in advance and broadcast by the ABC network at the start of its 25 hours of programming for Independence Day, July 4.

Feliks the eagle is back home in Serbia after a kidnap ordeal in West Asia

Belgrade: Feliks' journey resembles a Hollywood movie script, with kidnappers, smugglers and clandestine border crossings.

The year-old eastern imperial eagle from Serbia, started flying in Aug and later set off on his first migratory flight toward West Asia, only to be captured by poachers, sold illegally and retrieved in a daring cross-border mission.

While Feliks returned home safely last week, his ordeal highlighted both the widespread practice of profit-driven, illegal animal trade and an unfaltering struggle by animal protection groups to counter it. "It's getting worse year after year, season after season, day after day," said Michel Sawan, the head of the Lebanese Association for Migratory Birds, who played a key role in Feliks's rescue. "We can actually barely believe ... the mission was done successfully."

The eastern imperial eagle is an imposing bird of prey with a wingspan of up to 6 feet. The protected species in Serbia was down to a single breeding pair back in 2017 but has recovered thanks to the tireless work of the Bird Protection and Study Society of Serbia, or BPSSS. The precious offspring of a new generation of eagles, Feliks was ringed and got a "small backpack" with a transmitter before setting off last Aug, Uros Stojiljkovic from the BPSSS said. "Everything seemed normal," Stojiljkovic added. "We didn't dream all this would happen."

AP

AP

Feliks, an Eastern imperial eagle, flew from Serbia across North Macedonia, Greece, Turkiye and Syria, where he fell victim to traffickers

Feliks first circled close to home before heading southeast across North Macedonia, Greece and Turkiye. His tracking signal was lost in late Oct in Syria.

Weeks passed by before the news came from Sawan: Feliks was put up for sale after he was captured by poachers who catch migratory birds by placing water in the desert, or shoot at them, capture them with nets or even chase them with motorcycles. "When Felix was caught at first, it was posted on many WhatsApp groups for selling wild birds illegally trapped in Syria," Sawan said. "I started my phone calls with people I know in Syria and we were able to reach out for Feliks."

Paying money to smugglers was out of the question but Sawan wasn't ready to give up. Feliks was sold to a buyer in Lebanon and resold back into Syria before Sawan managed to retrieve him through a network of associates. Getting Feliks over the border into Lebanon was then impeded by fighting in the region and bad weather, he said. Eventually, a group of refugees carried Feliks in a potato sack over the Nahr al-Kabir river on the northern border between Syria and Lebanon.

Now safely in Sawan's bird sanctuary in Beirut, Feliks still needed to get back home, a task that became virtually impossible after the start of the war in Iran. After three failed attempts, the Serbian army came to the rescue through its troops serving in a UN peacekeeping mission in Lebanon. Finally, on June 22, Feliks arrived back in Serbia aboard a military plane. Feliks is now in a zoo in northern Serbia where he must be quarantined for 21 days. Experts from the BPSSS say the eagle will get a new transmitter before he is released again. AP

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Building Growth Mindset For Lifelong Career Resilience

Curiosity & Commitment To Upskilling Will Shape Careers

By Yashwant Mahadik

For a long time, professional growth followed a familiar path: education, a stable role, gradual progression. It worked because industries moved at a measured pace, and knowledge held its value over decades. The ground has shifted. What distinguishes professionals today is not just what they have mastered, but how readily they can build on it, adapt it, and put it to work in new contexts.

When stability started shifting

Roles are being reshaped faster than most organisations can redesign them. Skills that once anchored careers are evolving sooner, and new competencies are emerging just as quickly. The half-life of digital and technical skills has shortened to under five years in some domains—a figure that would have seemed extraordinary not long ago. The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2025 projects that employers expect 39% of workers' core skills to change by 2030. With one of the world's largest working-age populations, India holds real potential to lead in a skills-first era. Employers are actively seeking people equipped to operate in a marketplace shaped by digital technology, artificial intelligence, and the push toward sustainable business models. Core competencies—data analytics, AI-enabled automation, cybersecurity, tech-enabled project management, sustainability-focused operations—are fast becoming table stakes rather than

Ram

differentiators. Stability is now defined less by years of service and more by the capacity to learn, adapt, and grow—sometimes within the very same role.

What professionals are prioritising

Professionals are placing greater value on breadth of experience, honest feedback, and learning that keeps pace with where their industries are heading.

Those who treat AI as a lever, using it to sharpen judgment, move faster, and open up ways of working that were previously inaccessible, are pulling ahead. AI-enabled platforms can identify skill gaps, surface relevant learning, and recommend development pathways tailored to the individual, making growth planning both more structured and more personal.

The organisational imperative

The question for organisations is not whether to invest in building capability, but how to do it with the discipline that lasting impact demands. Those that treat learning as core infrastructure—built into how work happens, not added on as a periodic program—are creating a measurable edge. The data bears this out: companies with strong learning cultures report 30–50% higher retention, as people feel genuinely valued and supported in their growth. Feedback is one of the most underused levers available. Culture does the heavy lifting here. Where stretch assignments, cross-functional exposure, and honest conversations are part of how teams work, people are better equipped when their roles evolve.

The role of leadership

The role of leaders extends well beyond encouraging curiosity. It means making learning measurable, budgeted for, and reviewed with the same rigour applied to performance targets. When leaders back this with real resources, build it into review cycles, and hold themselves accountable for development outcomes, the message becomes unambiguous: growth is not optional. It is expected.

What this means for individuals

Careers ahead will be defined and by the aspiration and drive to fuel one's own professional journey continuously.

(Yashwant Mahadik is president, global human resources, Lupin)

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Activity	PO/MT	Specialist Officers
On-line registration including Edit/Modification of Application by candidates	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026
Payment of Application Fees/Intimation Charges (Online)	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026
Edit Window for Candidates to Modify/ Correct Application Form (including online payment for Edit)	After closure of Registration (will be notified on Official IBPS website)	After closure of Registration (will be notified on Official IBPS website)
Conduct of Pre-Exam Training	August 2026	--
Online Examination – Preliminary	**August 2026**	**August 2026**
Result of Online exam – Preliminary	September 2026	September / October 2026
Online Examination – Main	**October 2026**	**November 2026**
Declaration of Result – Main Examination	November 2026	November 2026
Personality Test	**November 2026**	**--**
Conduct of interview	November / December 2026	November / December 2026
Provisional Allotment	January 2027	January 2027

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CONTRAPUNTO

And now, what's going to happen to us without barbarians? Those people were a kind of solution

– CP CAVAFY, poem

Auf Wiedersehen

Germany's shock exit from the World Cup tells a larger tale: upsets are a rich part of human affairs

Fans are still scratching their heads, jaws on the floor, eyeballs popped. Paraguay have sent Germany packing from the World Cup, in a shootout win at that. Talk about an underdog toppling a superpower. Several historical upsets come to mind, which speak to the gravity of this one. Napoleon going down at Waterloo. Magnus Carlsen falling to a teen called Praggnanandhaa. *Parasite* eclipsing Scorsese, Tarantino and Sam Mendes movies to win Best Picture at Oscars. Indira Gandhi losing the 1977 election, and even her own seat. Einstein overturning Newton. Blockbuster being wiped out by Netflix. Kodak getting bankrupted by the digital photography it invented. Hmmm. This list puts things in zen perspective, doesn't it?

A famous Hegelianism is apt here: "The owl of Minerva spreads its wings only with the falling of the dusk." Historical ruptures, shock defeats, they only *look* like they happened overnight. The penalty shootout, the election result, the Oscar envelope, the product launch…they are all usually part of a longer feedback loop. And more often than not, the churn's for the better. It's "creative destruction". Old value gets destroyed so new value can emerge. Existing coalitions give way to emergent identities. Fall of the Berlin Wall only put a deafening rumble on how the legitimacy of Soviet communism had already collapsed. The *Parasite* win only announced that Korean cinema had become impossible to ignore. Morocco's run in the 2022 Cup looked like a fairy tale, but reflected years of investment in coaching, academies, and the enormous pool of talent playing in Europe. Now, nobody would be astonished if this team reaches another semifinal, or even a final.

Schumpeter of course argued that every dominant firm, tech or institution eventually creates the conditions for its own replacement. That's not just a business principle. The *Midnight's Children* Booker was a mighty literary break, but its conditions had been accumulating for decades. By 1981, Britain was no longer the centre of the English-speaking world. And the prize, far from destroying the English novel, expanded it dramatically. The giant often becomes trapped by the systems that made it successful. The underdog is freer to improvise.

In the West, 1960s-70s politics delivered huge shifts in family structure, gender roles, sexual norms, and civil rights. Today, the pendulum is giving us Roe overturned, DEI programmes rolled back, gender and immigration corralled anew, a Brexit and Trump era. Thing is, as yesterday, so today, what seems permanent really isn't. "Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold." History has no permanent winners, only long reigning ones.

This Isn't Tough Love

Draconian laws, like Bengal's public safety and public order bills, are no substitute for good policing

Bengal birthed India's first anti-goonda law, with long preventive detention and other draconian measures, more than a century ago. But that was to strengthen colonial rule. Why does its new govt need to arm itself with such powers now? West Bengal Public Safety and Control of Anti-Social Activities Bill, 2026, and West Bengal Maintenance of Public Order (Amendment) Bill, 2026, sailed through the state legislature on Monday. And despite the CM's assurances, they come with potential to be misused against political opponents, activists, etc. That's to say, both laws cast a shadow on the spirit of democracy.

Truth is, other Indian states like UP, Maharashtra and Gujarat already have their anti-goonda laws, and their experience should have made Bengal wary. Who is a 'goonda' or anti-social person? The determination is highly discretionary. At times, a person with just one or two criminal cases is labelled a habitual offender, Allahabad HC noted in April. What happens after that is even more troubling. The state can order you out of your home district, or detain you for a year without trial. It can even curb your choice of legal counsel. These should be red flags in a democracy.

Any law that can remove and silence an inconvenient person for a year – it could be a labour activist, or an environmental campaigner – has no place in a democracy. Yet, use of preventive detention, as a law and order measure, continues growing in India. This does not build confidence in Indian police forces' capabilities. After all, how do other countries keep the peace without such sweeping powers? What's needed isn't unbridled control over some, but strict enforcement of rules for all. With its massive mandate, Bengal's new govt is well placed to make regular policing work. It should focus on that.

Convenient clichés

Trite and tested phrases save us lot of time & verbal trouble

Jug Suraiya

In London, locals enquire of us if the cold and rainy spell of what they call 'unsettled weather' is unsettling us. And when that gives way to a scorching heatwave, they welcome the 'good weather'. Sweltering heat with no ACs and hardly any proper fans to speak of, making it impossible to get a decent night's sleep, 'good weather'?

We reply that the cold and wet, which is customary and unsettling for them, and the blazing sun and heat are welcome. For us, it's the other way round because, in a North Indian summer, we get too much sun and heat and not enough coolth. So what they call bad weather, we deem good weather.

The grass is always greener on the other side, I tell the locals. And having said it, I wonder why I use such a hackneyed phrase that has become a cliché.

Couldn't I find a better way to put it? What about: What's desirable and what's undesirable depends on your point of view?

No. That doesn't have the evocative resonance of grass and its differing shades of green, which is the colour of envy.

What we would do without our clichés that put succinct words in our mouth without our having to struggle to find them? Clichés, the commonplace coinage of communication, are labour-saving devices when we express ourselves.

secondopinion

Every cloud has a silver lining. Rome wasn't built in a day. Actions speak louder than words. Don't count your chickens before they're hatched.

That verbal wizard, Shakespeare, is said to have coined over 1700 terms and phrases we use today. Wild goose chase. Break the ice. Good riddance. Love is blind. Heart of gold. Over the years his unmatched linguistic ingenuity has swelled the plebeian ranks of clichédom.

Without our clichés we would be left struggling to invent a wheel of words with which to convey our meaning. Should such a wheel be triangular? Rectangular? Oval? The hell with it. Don't try to reinvent the wheel. That invention has also been turned into a useful cliché.

Right To Die, In Peace

On Doctors' Day, an SC judge (retd) and a physician parse the arguments, for and against, medical termination of life for patients who can't be cured. First priority is a law and system for palliative care

Arjan K Sikri and Chandrakant Lahariya

For years, the name Aruna Shanbaug was India's most painful reminder of a question we did not know how to answer. A young nurse in Mumbai, brutally assaulted in 1973, spent over four decades alive, but not, in any ordinary sense, living. Her case forced India to ask an uncomfortable question: when medicine can keep the body going, but cannot restore life as we understand it, must suffering be prolonged, or does a person have the right to refuse such prolongation?

Supreme Court's answer was that though a person has no right to die by taking their own life, they have the right to refuse medical treatment and hasten death, known as passive euthanasia.

That question has returned with urgency – India is ageing, chronic and terminal illnesses are more common. Hospitals can keep people alive for longer than ever. Ventilators, feeding tubes and intensive care can delay death. But medical advancement, alone, cannot answer the moral question at the bedside: are we helping a person live, or merely prolonging 'dying'?

Right to die with dignity cannot be reduced to a slogan. It is a test of India's healthcare system. A society cannot respect death with dignity, if it fails to provide care with dignity. India has taken important legal steps. Though there is no independent right to die in Indian law, the idea lies within the right to live with dignity under Article 21. Passive euthanasia, under safeguards, is legally recognised. Living wills are permitted.

These milestones acknowledge that life is not merely biological existence. Life also includes dignity, choice and freedom from needless suffering. If mentally competent, a patient can refuse treatment. If she has written an advance will, that must be given effect. If the patient is in a vegetative state, the test becomes what is in the "best interest of the patient".

But the law is only one part of the story. The harder work lies inside hospitals, homes and families. The Harish Rana judgment of 2026 explains this complexity. In most Indian families, such decisions are rarely made by the patient alone. Doctors may know recovery is not possible, but hesitate to say it clearly. The family may continue treatment because stopping feels like betrayal. Often, everyone knows the truth, but no one has the courage to name it.

Medicine must rediscover a simple truth: healing is not the same as curing.

A doctor may not cure advanced cancer, reverse irreversible brain damage, or restore a failing body to meaningful life. But the duty of medicine does not end when cure ends. It becomes the duty to relieve pain, reduce fear, speak honestly, support the family and ensure the patient is not abandoned.

Any serious conversation on the right to die must begin with the right to heal. Has the patient received pain relief? Has palliative care been offered? Has the family been counselled? Has depression or despair been assessed? Has the person been made to feel like a burden? Has the decision emerged from dignity, or from debt and exhaustion? If these questions are not answered, a so-called choice may not be free. It may be the voice of untreated pain, loneliness, poverty or fear.

Palliative care is central to this debate, yet remains weak in much of India. Many families hear "palliative" and think it means giving up. It does not. Palliative care is not about ending care. It improves the quality of the life that remains. It can reduce pain and anxiety, guide families, and help doctors avoid cruelty and false hope.

In an ideal system, palliative care would begin early in serious illness and be available in district hospitals, nursing homes and homes, not only in the last 48 hours. Pain relief should not depend on geography or luck or affordability. No society should debate the right to die without first ensuring the right not to suffer needlessly.

Mental health also matters. A wish to die may be a considered decision amid irreversible suffering. But it may also arise from depression, grief, trauma or temporary despair. These are not the same. A humane system must tell the difference. Counsellors, mental health specialists and palliative care teams should be part of end-of-life decisions.

The risk of pressure is real. The elderly, disabled, chronically ill and poor may feel they are a burden. In a country where medical bills can push families into debt, this concern cannot be dismissed. Autonomy must be respected, but also protected. Safeguards are not paperwork, but moral protection.

Doctors, too, need clarity. Most doctors are trained to save lives. Many worry that withdrawing life support may invite blame or litigation. Clear rules, medical boards, documentation and ethics support can protect patients and doctors. They can reassure families that stopping futile treatment is not abandoning a loved one.

The way forward is not to choose between the right to die and the duty to heal. India must hold both together. The right to die with dignity must remain protected. The duty to heal must remain constant, especially when cure is no longer possible.

The "best interest" test should mean this: end-of-life care should never become a hurried decision, a family compromise or a response to system failure. It must be slow, compassionate, documented and honest. A civilised health system is judged not only by how aggressively it fights disease, but by how gently it accompanies a person when the fight can no longer be won.

When the cure ends, care must not. That is where dignity truly begins.

Justice Sikri retired from Supreme Court in March 2019. Dr Lahariya is a specialist in preventive & cardiometabolic medicine

'Underlying principle: timeline plus tech equals trust'

Writing on the second anniversary of 3 new laws replacing IPC-CrPC, NCRB director argues the criminal justice system is now technology-powered and victim-centric

Alok Ranjan

For an ordinary citizen, the criminal justice system is not simply a collection of statutes, rules or institutions. It is experienced through simple questions. Was the complaint recorded promptly? Was the victim kept informed throughout the investigation? Was evidence collected carefully? Did the witness receive summons in time? And did the case conclude without avoidable delay?

India's criminal justice system has long carried twin burdens of delay and fragmentation. Cases move through disconnected institutions, paper-heavy workflows and uneven practices across jurisdictions, making those more process-centric than victim-centric. Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (BSA), which came into force on July 1, 2024, re-engineer this journey.

Objective is to create a modern, tech-enabled and victim-centric criminal justice system. Implementation countrywide is necessarily demanding. Capacities vary and several institutions must act in sequence. Legal reform will inspire confidence only when it becomes reliable everyday practice.

Timely justice | A most significant reform under the Nyaya Sanhita is an additional 45 structured timelines, across investigation and trial, to make 145 timelines in total. Vision is to complete the criminal justice process, from inception of a case to final adjudication, within three years.

These prescribed timelines are supported through tech-based monitoring mechanisms, via the criminal justice digital ecosystem.

Now, automated alerts for investigating officers can ensure timely filing of chargesheets. Similar timelines incorporated into the Case Information System (courts' case-management platform) will help judicial officers monitor timelines. The principle is simple: 'Timeline Plus Tech Equals Trust'.

Such monitoring has improved chargesheet compliance: 60-day compliance has increased, from 51% in 2024 to 67% in 2026, while 90-day compliance has increased from 40% to 60% during the same period.

Integrated-interoperable system | The second pillar is technological integration as the operational framework. It paves way for new specific initiatives: e-FIR, zero-FIR that is jurisdiction- and language-agnostic, e-Sakshya (electronic evidence capture & management), e-Summons (electronic issuance & service of summons), MedLEaPR (medico legal and postmortem reports), e-Forensics, e-Prisons, e-Prosecution and Nyaya Shruti (videocons for judicial proceedings). These are instruments for a paperless and integrated ecosystem, with digitally authenticated records, and electronic data-sharing, enabling faster, more transparent processes.

A key development is expansion of the Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), which connects the five pillars of criminal justice – police, courts, prisons, forensics and prosecution – on a unified digital platform under the vision of 'One Data, Once Entry'.

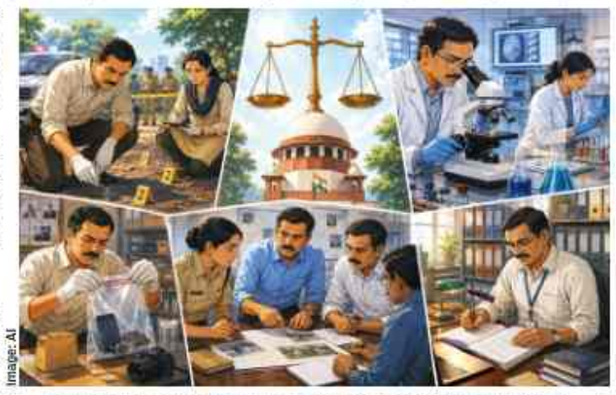

Image: AI

The near real-time electronic transmission of FIRs and chargesheets between police and courts can reduce duplication, improve data accuracy and enable timely judicial action. For the citizen, interoperability should mean the system shares information within lawful boundaries, instead of repeatedly asking the citizen to carry the same papers from one office to another.

Why digital-default, forensics matter | Service of summons remains a chokepoint in criminal trials. Direct electronic service to addressee can reduce intermediaries, making the process faster, transparent and accountable. Its success, however, depends on capturing accurate mobile numbers, emails and contact details of the accused and witnesses right at filing of the case. Digital reform succeeds, when basics are done consistently.

A justice system is only as strong as the quality of evidence. BNSS requires a forensic expert to visit the crime scene, in offences punishable with imprisonment for seven years or more, collect evidence and ensure the process is videographed. Tools such as e-Sakshya strengthen collection, preservation and authentication of evidence.

Over 700 mobile forensic vans are deployed, with expansion underway. The aim is to make scientific investigation the norm, and improve quality of evidence, for timely trials. In last two years, rate of disposal of forensic cases has nearly doubled.

For victims and families, the value of better forensics is deeply human. A carefully documented crime scene, a protected chain of custody, and timely forensic report, reduce uncertainty and help ensure cases are decided on credible evidence.

Collaborative governance, silent work | Large reforms often falter in uneven implementation. The response has, therefore, relied on sustained coordination among Centre and states, and across justice system's five pillars. Strategy involved sustained high-level engagement, including meetings with CMs, chief secretaries and DGPs of all states, and constant engagement with registrars general and central project coordinators of all 25 HCs. Supreme Court e-committee's support led to a quantum leap in integrating Case Information System with ICJS. Bhopal's National Judicial Academy drafted model rules in consultation with HCs.

For citizens, 'legislative framework is in place', 'tech tools are available', 'institutional will is evident', and it calls for 'sustained commitment, coordinated action, and a shared sense of purpose'. Citizen-first and victim-centric objective of Nyaya Sanhita framework lies in aligning clear timelines, interoperable tech and multi-institutional coordination.

If these reforms are followed through, outcomes will extend far beyond faster paperwork. It'll enable a justice system more predictable, transparent and trustworthy. This is the standard citizens are entitled to expect: measurable compliance with established procedures, consistent application of law, and timely delivery of justice.

Views expressed are personal

Calvin & Hobbes

Sacredspace

I believe that nothing has ever existed of everything my lying memory tells me... I believe that body, shape, extension, motion, location are functions. What is there then that can be taken as true? Perhaps only this one thing – nothing at all is certain.

René Descartes

When Science-Metaphysics Divide Falls Apart

Somnath Sarkar

What is the brouhaha over AI tech and deepfakes, which seems to go back to a timeless zone? Long before the advent of AI and deepfakes, many characters from Indian mythological epics, Ramayan and Mahabharat, had the ability to morph into different personas. Indeed, the demon Marich in the Ramayan could perhaps be regarded as a conceptual precursor to the modern deepfake phenomenon. Ravan's kin transformed into a golden deer to lure Ram away from Sita and, thereby, aid and abet Ravan in abducting her.

The 'deepfake' game was not just confined to visual deception. As he lay dying after being struck by Ram's arrow, Marich imitated Ram's voice while calling out to Lakshman for help in a distressed tone, prompting a concerned Sita to coax Lakshman to help his brother. It was the perfect unguarded setting for Sita to fall prey to the machinations of Ravan, who morphed into a venerable sage to carry out the abduction. It was a flawless two-stage deception at work.

There was a pronounced culture of deception in the mythological setting, in which some characters, imbued with illusory powers through maya, could transform and deceive for malefic or, at times, noble ends. Deception, trickery, and delusion intruded into mythology then, and, through tech, via an algorithmic interplay, now.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Deepfakes spawned by AI, like the mythical 'mayavis', are intended to impersonate and deceive. No doubt, mythology, particularly insofar as it encroaches upon the domain of tech, is taken with a pinch of salt by rationalists as it does not rest on a scientific foundation and, as such, is regarded as fiction.

Significantly, there is settled unanimity about accepting the writings of Jules Verne as 'sci-fi with substance', ostensibly because they presage actual inventions and enjoy chronological proximity with the latter. Mythological narratives, while not being predictive in a technological sense, traverse a symbolic, moral and metaphysical canvas. Ravan's pushpak viman, for example, may be regarded as a metaphysical precursor to the flying machine, even though it lacks a scientific rationale.

The mythological mayavis and the deepfake manifestation of AI tech inhabit two watertight compartments, and the twain do not meet. But they do point to a common denominator of deception that has been, and continues to be, increasingly applied to achieving objectives across diverse areas of human endeavour.

Indeed, both mythology and AI-engineered deepfakes evolve from a long-standing human fascination with illusion, identity, and the power to manipulate perception. Mythology caters to the 'willing suspension of disbelief' route even as scientific developments rest on the bedrock of empiricism and deductive rationale.

However, one cannot deny that, at the end of the day, imagination powers innovation, which, in turn, paves the way for invention over a scientific and evolutionary route. Somewhere, then, the distinction between fantasy, fiction, scientific development, and metaphysics seems to fall apart, and fantasy and imagination apparently have in them the seeds that sprout inventions.

INDIA DIGEST

Odd-even rule in Gulmarg to ease traffic pressure

The J&K govt Tuesday announced an odd-even traffic system in famous tourist destination Gulmarg to reduce congestion and ease pressure on the hill resort that has a parking capacity for about 1,500 vehicles but has been receiving more than 6,000 vehicles a day. Officials said it is the first time such traffic restrictions have been introduced at any tourist destination in Jammu and Kashmir. Officials said traffic violations have also become a growing concern at the hill station. They said some visitors have ignored regulations, and last week authorities fined a driver Rs 50,000 after his vehicle was seen driving on Gulmarg Golf Course.

School dropout stabs teacher for failing him

A 17-year-old school dropout allegedly stabbed his former class teacher inside a convent school in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar accusing the teacher of deliberately failing him in Class IX in 2023. The teacher, however, had neither taught him nor evaluated the subjects in which the student had failed.

Massive blaze erupts in Haldia Petrochem pipeline, 19 injured

A massive blaze erupted early Tuesday in a pipeline carrying naphtha at Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd in West Bengal, injuring at least 19 people. Sources said the fire broke out between 4 and 4.30 am on the Haldia Refinery side near the Haldia-Mecheda railway link. According to a statement by HPL, preliminary information suggested it occurred due to a pipe leakage, spreading further to the LPG line of the neighbouring IndianOil-Petronas Pvt Ltd. The exact cause of the fire is under investigation.

State's duty to protect life of accused: HC on egg attacks

The state has a duty to protect the life and honour of accused in custody, Calcutta high court stressed Tuesday while directing Bengal's BJP govt to frame guidelines for ferrying suspects and prisoners in the wake of egg attacks on TMC functionaries since their poll rout. The division bench of Acting Chief Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty and Justice Partha Sarathi Chatterjee, hearing a PIL pleading for steps to stop protesters from throwing eggs, also directed the state to file a report on the action taken over such attacks.

India's faunal tally climbs to one lakh species

The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has added 709 new records to its faunal database over the past year, pushing the country's total known faunal diversity to a staggering 1.05 lakh species. The breakthrough reinforced India's position as one of the world's 17 megadiverse nations. Among the fresh discoveries, Kerala emerged the country's biggest hotspot for new biodiversity findings. Bengal took the second spot.

J'khand teacher lands job with a day left to retire

Kelly Kislaya | TNN

Ranchi: Nandlal Ravani doesn't know what to make of landing his "dream job" after years of trying to see his name on a list of appointees.

Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren handed the Jamtara resident his appointment letter for the post of assistant teacher in a govt school this Monday, a day before he hit the official age for retirement. As Nandlal turned 60 on Tuesday with a day-old job in hand, the irony of impermanence hanging over what was supposed to be a "permanent" appointment couldn't have been crueller.

"I waited my entire life for a permanent job, only to get it on the eve of my retirement," Nandlal, a para teacher since 2006, told **TOI**.

He cleared the Jharkhand Teacher Eligibility Test in 2016 but the recruitment drive that was supposed to follow did not begin until 2023. Another three years went by before the JMM-led govt finalised the appointment of 1,042 teachers.

Nandlal isn't a one-off case. Naeem Ansari of Palamu spent 24 years as a para teacher and turned 60 on May 31, a month before his letter arrived. Rajendra Vishwakarma, also from Palamu, cleared TET in 2016 but will have only three years in service for no fault of his.

VB-GRAM gives major push to water security in villages

Rollout Of Scheme Today

Ambika.Pandit
@timesofindia.com

EVERY DROP COUNTS

New Delhi: The new rural employment scheme Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar & Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) — to be rolled out from Wednesday — has laid significant focus on strengthening water security in villages, allotting 107 of 318 permissible works to addressing the issue in the employment guarantee framework's interim list — an initiative that could tackle a El Nino-triggered rain deficiency situation.

In view of challenges posed by climate change, the gram panchayats will be also able to take up projects related to disaster mitigation and when an area is impacted by situations like droughts and floods more works can be added to list of activities under the VB G RAM G scheme.

These details were shared during a presentation before ministers of various states at a two-day national conference 'Gramodaya Se Rashtrodaya' organised by the ministry of rural development on Sunday and Monday to discuss the implementation and progress of major rural development schemes including the rollout of VB - G RAM G scheme.

Expressing concern over the possibility of below-normal rainfall, minister for rural development and agriculture farmers' welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan urged the states expected to be impacted, to remain vigilant and prepare in advance for any adverse situation. He directed state govts that could be impacted by rainfall deficit to strengthen water conservation structures to stock water for irrigation and drinking purposes and make adequate preparations to generate additional employment opportunities in rural areas if required.

Modi skips Khamenei funeral, sends ministers

▶ Continued from page 1

Pezeshkian had invited Modi for the funeral of late Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei that begins on July 4. However, India has decided to send MoS for external affairs Pabitra Margherita and Bihar governor Syed Ata Hasnain for the multi-day programme.

This was the third conversation between Modi and Pezeshkian since the Iran war started. The talks took place amid uncertainty over diplomatic efforts to implement the June 17 interim peace deal that allowed 60 days for the two sides to negotiate a permanent ceasefire. India's delicate balancing act has seen Modi repeatedly condemning attacks on GCC countries but while remaining engaged with the Iranian president.

Court: When cops commit crime, offence is also against justice system

▶ Continued from page 1

CBI public prosecutor Dhara Singh said, "The court observed that when police themselves conspire to frame innocent citizens and fabricate evidence, the offence is committed not only against individuals but also against the justice system."

Special CBI judge and additional chief judicial magistrate Dr DS Faujdar held former sub-inspector Brajkishore and constables Anil Kumar (both retired), and Umesh Chand (to retire after about five years) guilty under various IPC sections. The case pertains to the Rampur Tiraha incident on the intervening night of Oct 1 and 2 when the statehood activists were intercepted in Muzaffarnagar. Subsequent police firing killed six dead and injured many. The incident led to allegations of sexual assault against several women, including minors.

NCLAT upholds PF & gratuity dues for Jet Airways staffers

Times News Network

Mumbai: In a significant ruling with implications for insolvency cases across sectors, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Tuesday held that workmen are entitled to receive their full provident fund and gratuity dues even if their employer hadn't maintained separate provident fund and gratuity accounts. In its order, the appellate tribunal upheld the rights of hundreds of former Jet Airways employees to receive these statutory dues outside the airline's liquidation estate, while dismissing appeals filed by State Bank of India (SBI) and other financial creditors.

The dispute arose after Jet Airways entered liquidation following the collapse of the Jalan-Fritsch consortium's resolution plan in Nov 2024. The staffers argued that their provident fund and gratuity dues should not form part of the liquidation estate under Section 36(4)(a)(iii) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), while lenders contended that such protection applied only if separate provident fund or gratuity funds physically existed on the liquidation commencement date.

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	Manager- Projects	(80000-220000)	
3	Chief Manager- Technical Services (Speciality Chemicals)	(100000-260000)	1
	Deputy General Manager- Technical Services (Speciality Chemicals)	(120000-280000)	
4	Deputy General Manager- Sales & Marketing (Petrochemicals/ Petrochemicals Derivatives)	(120000-280000)	1
	General Manager- Sales & Marketing (Petrochemicals/ Petrochemicals Derivatives)	(120000-280000)	
	Chief General Manager- Sales & Marketing (Petrochemicals/ Petrochemicals Derivatives)	(120000-280000)	
5	Senior Manager- Economist	(90000-240000)	1
	Chief Manager – Economist	(100000-260000)	
	Deputy General Manager- Economist	(120000-280000)	
6	Deputy General Manager- Gas Sourcing & Marketing	(120000-280000)	2
	General Manager- Gas Sourcing & Marketing	(120000-280000)	

Fresher Positions

Sl. No.	Position	Pay Scale (Rs)	Vacancies
1	Junior Executive - Chemical	(30000-120000)	37
2	Junior Executive- Fire & Safety	(30000-120000)	17

IMPORTANT DATES
Commencement of online application: 01st July 2026
Last date of online application: 20th July 2026

For more details of advertisement, eligibility criteria and related information candidates can visit our Career Page on https://hindustanpetroleum.com from 01st July 2026. Any addendum/ corrigendum related to this advertisement will only be published on the Career Page of our website.

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- Associate Professor: AI & ML | AI & DS | CSE | CSE (AI & ML) | ISE | ECE | EEE | ME | CV | AE | MBA | Mathematics | Physics
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Pathikrit.Chakraborty@timesofindia.com

What went wrong in Ram Mandir's counting room

The alleged theft of donations at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya has sparked a major political and administrative controversy. The issue came to light on June 7, when former Samajwadi Party (SP) MLA Pawan Pandey claimed that around Rs 7-7.5 crore had been siphoned off from the daily offerings made by devotees. He alleged that individuals involved in the temple's management were responsible for the misappropriation of funds.

The allegations quickly gained political traction after SP chief Akhilesh Yadav echoed the claims, demanding accountability. A section from the local BJP also called for an investigation, increasing pressure on the Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, which manages the temple.

The concerns only deepened when Nripendra Misra, chairman of the temple construction committee and a trust member, pointed out several loopholes in the cash-handling and donation-counting system. He recommended the appointment of a professional CEO to improve oversight and transparency.

Champat Rai, the trust's general secretary, initially dismissed the allegations. However, in the face of mounting public scrutiny, the trust requested the UP govt to investigate the matter. In response, chief minister Yogi Adityanath constituted a special investigation team (SIT) on June 13.

Within a week, the SIT submitted an interim report that identified procedural weaknesses in the donation management system. The report recommended significant structural reforms to ensure better monitoring and accountability in handling temple offerings.

The investigation also led to arrests. So far, eight people have been taken into custody, including six employees of an outsourced agency responsible for counting daily donations.

The other two accused are Tinnu Yadav, described as a long-time associate of Champat Rai; and Subhash Srivastava, who used to supervise the cash-counting operations.

The controversy has raised serious questions about financial transparency and governance in one of the country's most prominent religious institutions, prompting calls for stricter safeguards in the management of devotees' donations.

HOW THE COUNTING WORKS

COUNTING HUB: PILGRIM FACILITATION CENTRE
Located on the temple campus, 200m from the main temple

The complex houses a basement counting hall, where all collections from 40 boxes are brought

THE TWO-SHIFT SYSTEM
- The morning shift is between 8am and 2pm; the evening shift begins at 2pm and goes on till 8pm
- There are around 20 tellers per shift, who work simultaneously
- Counting staff must wear pocket-less clothes. As a basic precaution, they are also not allowed to exit during the shifts, except for controlled breaks

HIERARCHY & CONTROL STRUCTURE
- **Overall supervision** Anil Mishra (trust member; he has now resigned)
- **Operational head** | SBI and TCS staff. Trust has formally engaged SBI for the cash-handling process
- Each shift has a person in charge, and 1 supervisor for every 4-5 tellers
- Staff also includes local organisational volunteers

1

Donations Pour In

40 **Donation boxes** installed across temple complex

75,000 **Average footfall** on a normal day, which **rises by 2-3 times** on special days

₹8L-13L **Range of daily collections**, which can **go up to ₹50L-60L** on festival days. Donations take the form of cash, coins, gold, silver and jewellery

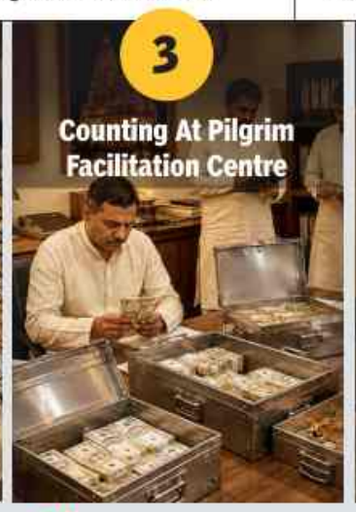
₹153 crore **Total value of offerings in 2024-25**. Along with the **₹173cr interest** earned on the trust's deposits and FDs, the trust's total income was around **₹327cr**

Images: AI

2 **Opening Boxes**

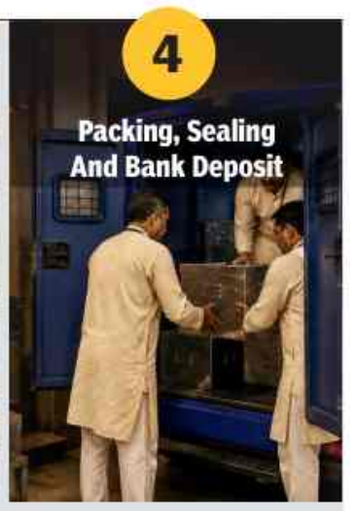
- Boxes are opened only in the presence of authorised personnel, including trust representatives, SBI personnel and process-support staff
- Donations are shifted to locked iron containers before being transported to the counting centre

3 **Counting At Pilgrim Facilitation Centre**



44 outsourced counting staff work in two shifts
- Cash is manually sorted, counted, packed and sealed before being sent to SBI to be deposited

4 **Packing, Sealing And Bank Deposit**



- Counted cash sealed into bank containers, sent to SBI branch
- Bank verifies and deposits into trust's account. There are no cheque books, all transactions are fully digital, payments are made via direct account transfers

THE LAPSES

According to evidence collected by SIT, the 'theft' happened at the 3rd and 4th stages (counting and packing), when a large volume of cash was being handled without SOPs being followed by outsourced staff.

Preliminary findings suggest that despite detailed written procedures being in place, lax implementation and inadequate supervision allowed essential preventive measures to become ineffective, weakening the integrity of the donation counting system. Some of them are:

Pocket-less Clothes | Ignored
That counting personnel would need to wear pocket-less clothes was one of the key safeguards agreed upon by the trust and SBI. This protocol was not enforced, creating an opportunity for currency to be concealed during handling.

Cash Deposit Rules | Not Followed
CCTV footage from counting hall has reportedly captured instances of bundles of currency handed over to specific individuals, instead of being placed in designated collection trays or sealed containers. Some cash may have been diverted before the official sealing and banking process, thereby escaping the formal accounting chain.

Cops are now examining staff deployment records and banking documents to establish whether alleged diversions were isolated incidents, or part of a systematic modus operandi involving multiple members of counting workforce.

CCTVs | Blind Spots, Footage Retention Vulnerability
The CCTV surveillance system, intended to provide continuous monitoring of counting, has itself come under scrutiny. Preliminary examination of footage has revealed that certain employees allegedly positioned themselves directly in front of cameras while handling currency, temporarily obstructing the cameras' fields of view.

Investigators believe these blind spots may have been deliberately exploited to conceal suspicious activity from surveillance. SIT is now examining whether monitoring arrangements were adequately supervised and whether real-time surveillance could have detected or prevented attempts to evade camera coverage.

Surveillance footage was automatically overwritten after 45 days, restricting ability to examine older recordings that may have revealed the alleged pattern of theft over an extended period. Investigators believe longer retention of CCTV recordings could have provided additional clues to help identify more suspects.

Frisking | Failed To Detect Cash Removal
Entry and exit frisking of employees was reportedly carried out by private security personnel, but investigators found no comprehensive mechanism to verify what workers carried into or out of the premises. Police suspect these shortcomings may have enabled the unauthorised removal of cash.

Outsourced Workforce Weak Accountability
The extensive reliance on outsourced personnel has come under scrutiny. The SIT's preliminary findings suggest that responsibilities were not clearly assigned or individually documented among cash-counting staff, making it difficult to establish accountability for specific stages of the process.

This lack of role-specific responsibility diluted oversight and complicated efforts to identify individual liability.

Record-Keeping | Under Probe
Preliminary examination has reportedly revealed discrepancies in the documentation of certain valuables, prompting a detailed audit of inventory management practices.

Human Intervention | Too Many Manual Touch Points
The donation management system relied heavily on manual handling, creating multiple opportunities for alleged diversion before funds reached the bank. Collection from boxes, transfers into iron containers, transportation by carts to counting hall. Manual sorting, counting, packing, sealing and depositing with SBI — each stage involved human intervention by multiple individuals.

SIT is examining whether the absence of stronger automation, digital tracking and independent verification at every transfer point created vulnerabilities that could have been exploited to siphon off donations before formal reconciliation.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
Open E-Tender

No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 25/06/2026. The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.ireps.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link **www.ireps.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply**. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy. CMM/M-II/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340708 or AMM/M, 9163340706. **Office Address:** Office of The PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan. **Sl. No.:[1]. Tender No.:75263790. Brief Description of Item:** Supply and installation of Waterless urinal for 3-Ph. electric locomotives as per RDSO Specification No. /FRS No.: RDSO/2023/EL/FRS/0034 (Rev. "02") issued in Sep 2025 or latest. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity:411.00 nos. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹ 2000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):** 21/08/2026 at 11:00 AM.

PR6/406 **PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan**
Visit us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

राजस्थान राज्य क्रीड़ा परिषद
खाई मानसिंह स्टेडियम, जयपुर, जयपुर सम्भाग दूरभाष नं0 0141-2744283
फैक्स नं0 0141-2740568, ईमेल आईडी - rsc@jaipur@gmail.com

क्रमांक :- F.8/T.C./Khelo India/2026/Alwar/RajKaj 23047897 दिनांक :- 25/06/2026

निविदा सूचना संख्या 23/2026-27

राजस्थान राज्य क्रीड़ा परिषद, जयपुर की ओर से भारत सरकार की खेलों इंडिया योजनान्तर्गत पीएम श्री नवीन सीनियर सैकेण्डरी स्कूल, अलवर में सिन्थेटिक हॉकी टर्फ मैदान निर्माण कार्य हेतु राज्य/केन्द्र सरकार के संगठनों/विभागों में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से ई–प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित अन्य आवश्यक विवरण वेबसाईट **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** व **www.rssc.in** पर देखी जा सकती है।

UBN No.: RSC2627WLOB00029
राज.संवाद/सी/26/5914 **सचिव**

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(Yermarus Thermal Power Station)
(Joint venture of KPCL and BHEL)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582

No: KPCL/2026-27/PS/WORK_INDENT 4225 Dated: 24.06.2026

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

RPCL invites bids through GoK e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the work of **"Annual Medical Examination of YTPS Employees as per factory Act 1948 and Karnataka Factory Rules"** Last date & time for bid submission along with Technical & Financial Bid (Part-I & Part-II): 04.07.2026 upto 16:45 hrs. Further details can be had from office of the **Deputy Medical Superintendent,** RPCL/ YTPS, Yermarus - 584 134, Raichur Dist., Karnataka. Mobile: +91 94806 82903.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in

(Office: Chief Engineer/ P&M, PSPCL, Ludhiana.)
Tender Enquiry no. 15/CE/P&M/2026

CE/P&M, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites e-Tender for Manufacture, Testing, Supply and Delivery of 3 no. Hotline Washing Equipment (Vehicle Mounted) for operation at EHV substations & lines of 66Kv level. For detailed NIT & Tender specifications please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 01.07.2026 from 11:00 hrs onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C 690/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/12826

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
E- Tender Notice No. DYCE-GS-AGC-03-2026 Dated: 25.06.2026

E-Tender Notice

Dy. Chief Engineer (Gati Shakti), North Central Railway, Agra on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through (E-Tender) for the following works.

Tender No.: DYCE-GS-AGC-03-2026

Name of Work with its location & completion period: Provision of Shunting Neck (BXN end) and a Pit line at AGC. **Completion Period:** 12 Months

Approximate cost of Work: Rs. 202053247.25 **Bid Security:** Rs. 4041100/-

Closing date of Tender: Date/Time **17.07.2026 ,15:00 Hrs.** ● For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website **www.ireps.gov.in**. Tender can only be submitted through web portal **www.ireps.gov.in** up to **15:00 Hrs.** on **17.07.2026.** **1466/26 (ADM)**

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bengaluru Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru-01.
Phone: 080-22133370

No. 10/2026-27 Date: 29.06.2027

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD, **No.1 South & No.2 North** Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP.

Tender Notification are Published **for 05 Works (Rs. 50.00 Lakhs to Rs. 495.00 Lakhs).** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.**

For Sl.No. 01 & 02

(1) Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 14.07.2026. (2)** The opening of tenders through KPP portal on **Dated: 15.07.2026 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimated.

For Sl.No. 03 to 05

(1) Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 07.07.2026. (2)** The opening of tenders through KPP portal on **Dated: 08.07.2026 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimated.

For more details contact this office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer.
DIPR/DD-C.P/1405/KSMCA/2025-26

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
OPEN E-TENDER

No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 24/06/2026. The following **e-Tenders** can be accessed under the link **www.ireps.gov.in.** Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link **www.ireps.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply**. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy. CMM/P/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340721 or AMM/P, 9163342746. **Office Address: Office of The PCMM/CLW/ Chittaranjan. Sl. No.; Tender No.; Brief Description of Item; Quantity; Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST)** are as follows : **[01]; 74263764;** Spacer for WAG-9HC to CLW Drg. No: -1209-01.418-004 Alt-2. **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]; **30317.00 nos;** ₹ 125930.00; **20/07/2026 at 11:00 AM. [02]; 74263743;** Axle Box Complete Without Bearing [CRU-150] for WAG-9HC as per Specn. No:- CLW/MS/03/0003 Alt-5. [Set means Loco set consisting of 03 (Three) items as per Set Details attached] **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]; **756.00 sets;** ₹ 2000000.00; **28/07/2026 at 11:00 AM. [03]; 74263724; (i)** Secondary Helical Spring for WAG-9HC as per Drg.No.1209-01.115-028 Item-1&Item-2, Specn: CLW/MS/3/SPEC./ELDO-BOGIE/004, Alt.3. **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery], **(ii)** Primary Helical Spring for WAG-9HC as per Drg. No. 1209-01.215-027 Item-1 & Item-2, Specn: CLW/MS/3/SPEC./ELDO-BOGIE/004, Alt.3. **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]; **(i) 614.00 sets, (ii) 580.00 sets;** ₹ 2000000.00; **03/08/2026 at 11:00 AM. [04]; 74263710;** Long Life Loco Side Buffer Assembly (Capacity: 30 KJ Minimum) to RDSO Drg. No:- SK.DL- 4748 Alt-2 or Latest & RDSO Spec. No:- MP-0.41.00.03 (Rev.03) August 2024 or Latest.**[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]; **1351.00 nos.;** ₹ 1436660.00; **17/08/2026 at 11:00 AM.**

PR2/402 **PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan**
"Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways"

34001/414/2627
E-mail ID:cebuildings_orissa@yahoo.co.in
cebuildings@rediffmail.com
Tel. (0674)-2391523

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA
NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

File No.-B-III-Sports-12/2025 23079 / Bhubaneswar, the 30th June, 2026

Invitation for Bids
1st Corrigendum

Tender Reference No. CE-Bldg-I-14/2026-27

Name of the Works : (1) "Construction of Block Level Stadium (with Indoor Hall) in Balikuda Block under Jagatsinghpur District",
(2) "Construction of Block Level Stadium (with Indoor Hall) in Raghunathpur Block under Jagatsinghpur District".
(3) "Construction of Block Level Stadium in Laikera Block (With Indoor Hall) under Jharsuguda District"

The following changes have been made in Bid Identification No. **CE-Bldg-I-14/2026-27**

1. Bid documents such as DTCN / BOQ etc. can be seen / downloaded from the Govt. Website i.e. **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**, during the period from **dt.17.07.2026 to 17.00 hours of dt.31.07.2026** instead of dt.30.06.2026 to dt.15.07.2026 for ONLINE BIDDING respectively.
2. **Online** bids shall be received till **17.00 Hours of dt.31.07.2026** instead of dt.15.07.2026.
3. The technical bids will be opened at **11.30 A.M. of dt.01.08.2026** instead of dt.17.07.2026.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, Buildings-I, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-34001/34117/1/26-27/0035

32001/466/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES,
O/O THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER,
RENGALI RIGHT IRRIGATION CIRCLE, DHENKANAL
Email Id - adlcerric@gmail.com

'e' Procurement Notice No. ACERRICD- 01/2026-27

The Additional Chief Engineer, Rengali Right Irrigation Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites **online percentage rate bids** in double cover system for construction of the works as detailed below :

1. Name of the work : Improvement and Renovation of Dhalapur Distributary-I from RD 880m to 1420m off-taking at RD 45420 m of Right Bank Canal of Rengali Right Irrigation Project.
2. Tender Cost : Rs 3,78,06,535/-
3. Bid Document Cost : Rs. 10,000.00 (on line)
4. Bid Security/EMD : Rs. 3,78,100/- (on line)
5. Class of Contractor : 'A' Class
6. Period of Completion : 18 (Eighteen) calendar months including rainy seasons
7. Other details are as follows :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding		Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
		From	To	
Additional Chief Engineer, RRIC, Dhenkanal	ACERRICD-01/2026-27	03.07.2026 10.00 AM	20.07.2026 5.30 PM	21.07.2026 11.00 AM

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Any addendum/ Corrigendum/ Cancellation to the above notice will be published in the Govt. website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Rengali Right Irrigation Circle, Dhenkanal
OIPR-32001/32351/1/26-27/0001

25001/443/2627
Ph : 06670-235504
E_Mail: serwbpt@yahoo.com

GOVT. OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS, CIRCLE, BHAWANIPATNA

Bid identification No.:- BPT/Online-08/2026-27 Date: 18.06.2026
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR ROAD WORKS IN ODISHA
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

1. Name of the Work : Construction of Road works under MMSY Schemes in the District of Kalahandi.
2. No of Works : As per NIT.
3. Location details : Kalahandi and Nuapada District
4. Estimated Cost : As per NIT.
5. Period of Completion : As per NIT.
6. Cost of tender paper : Rs.10,000/- per set.
7. Other details

Availability of tender for online bidding		Last date & time for seeking tender clarification	Date and time of opening of technical bid
From	To		
04.07.2026 11.00 A.M.	21.07.2026 5.00 P.M.	20.07.2026	22.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the web site **"www.tendersorissa.gov.in"**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Bhawanipatna
OIPR-25001/25102/1/26-27/0009

25001/583/2627
By E_Mail/e-Despatch
E_Mail ID: serwcbaripada@gmail.com
Ph-No-06792-261343/261344
Gangraj, Baripada

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BARIPADA
"e" Procurement Notice for Plan Road Work

Identification No.- Online Tender- Road N.C.B. No.417 for 2026-27.
Letter No. 3267 / Date : 18.06.2026

1. Name of the work : Road Work in the District of Mayurbhanj for the year 2026-27.
2. Total No. of work : 82 Nos. (Eighty Two)
3. Estimated Cost : **Rs.112.03 Lakhs to Rs.817.73 Lakhs (approximately).**
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : As per annexure.
5. Period of Completion : As per annexure.
6. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E.R.W. Circle, Baripada	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Baripada	Road On-line N.C.B. No. 417	Dt. 04.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	Dt.24.07.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt. 23.07.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt. 27.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

- **Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in.**
- **Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the above e_tender website only.**

Sd/- **A.K Naik**
Chief Construction Engineer,
R.W. Circle, Baripada.
OIPR-25001/25130/1/26-27/0018

CBIC TUMAKURU INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP LTD
(A Joint Venture of Govt of India & Govt of Karnataka)
(CIN : U74999KA2018PLC118247)
Reg. Office: No.49, 5th Floor, 'East Wing', Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001.
Phone: 91-80-22265383, email: mdcbic24@gmail.com

No.CBICTITL/CFO/FIN/68/2026-27 Date: 29.06.2026

PAPER PUBLICATION

This is to inform that CBIC-Tumakuru Industrial Township Ltd (CBIC-TITL), intends to invest its Surplus Funds in the short term deposits with Nationalized Banks. The details of the quantum of amount and period to be kept in short term deposits are as under:

Sl.No.	Amount	Period	Terms
1	Rs. 200.00 Crores	For 91 days	Callable

The complete details of E-Auction can be downloaded from the e-portal of the Government of Karnataka at the below address: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Schedule of Various Events For E-Auction is as below :

Sl.No.	Particulars	Dates
1	Date of E-Auction Bid Document can be Downloaded until:	**07.07.2026** on or before **11.00 Hrs**
2	Last Date to upload the Declaration in Annexure-B in the e-portal:	**07.07.2026** on or before **12.00 Hrs**
3	Date and time of opening:	**09.07.2026** after **13.00 Hrs**
4	Live Bidding:	**10.07.2026** Commences at **11.00 Hrs** & Concludes at **13.00 Hrs**

Sd/-
Chief Financial Officer, CBIC-TITL, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1406/Zen/2026-27

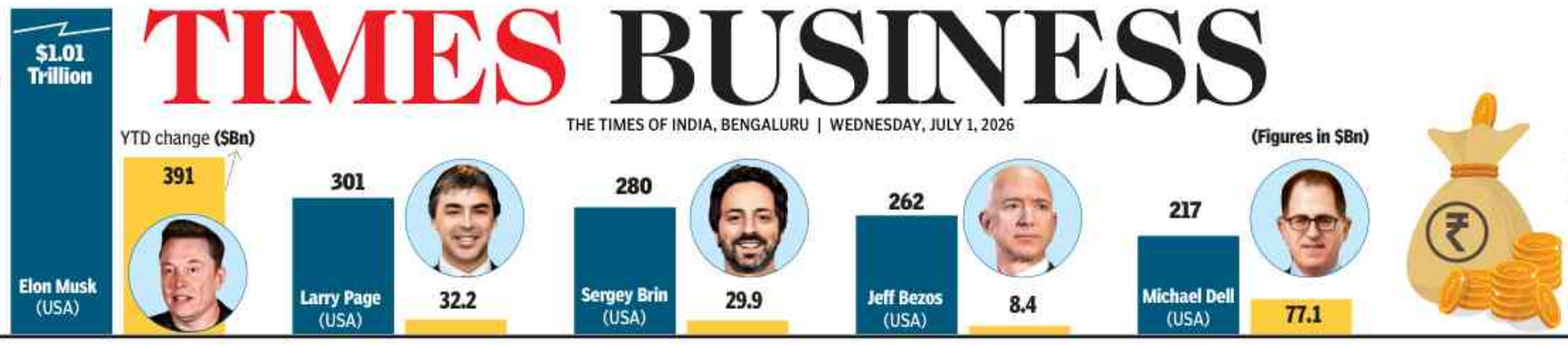
TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026

Elon Musk's Wealth Soars $391Bn In 2026

Six months into 2026, here's a look at the concentration of wealth among the top five richest people in the world

Total Net Worth (as of June 30)



Source: Bloomberg Billionaires Index

Gautam Adani, chairman of the Adani Group, occupies the 17th place on the list with a net worth of $117 billion, while **Mukesh Ambani,** chairman of Reliance Industries, is ranked 25th with a net worth of $86.7 billion

Deutsche Bk sells India units to Kotak

Mumbai: Kotak Mahindra Bank has agreed to acquire Deutsche Bank's India retail, private banking and wealth business for Rs 282 crore, as a going concern on a slump sale basis . The deal will strengthen the bank's affluent and SME franchise through an inorganic push, the bank said.

The acquired portfolio comprises Rs 29,000 crore in loans, Rs 16,000 crore in deposits and Rs 10,500 crore in assets under management, serving 150,000 customers with around 1,000 employees. Besides added scale, high-quality customers and experienced teams, the purchase will open cross-sell and adjacency opportunities, Kotak Bank said. Deutsche Bank undertook the sale as part of its Global Hausbank strategy, sharpening focus on core businesses—corporate and investment banking and global ultra-high-net-worth clients. TNN

Oyo parent files papers for ₹6.6k cr IPO

Mumbai: Oyo parent Prism has filed updated draft IPO papers with markets regulator Sebi, seeking to raise up to Rs 6,650 crore (around $703 million) and moved a step closer to getting listed on the bourses. The IPO has been structured as a primary share sale which means that the company will retain all the proceeds. None of the shareholders are paring stakes in the IPO.

Prism may consider a pre-IPO placement of up to Rs 1,330 crore in which case the issue size will be trimmed. Prism which was valued close to $10 billion at its peak is eyeing an IPO valuation of about $7-8 billion. SoftBank is the largest shareholder in Prism with a 40% stake. The company which is making its third attempt at going public joins quick commerce player Zepto on the road to Dalal Street. It plans to use the bulk of the proceeds–about Rs 4,988 crore for repayment or prepayment of borrowings. TNN

Firstsource flags CFO's trading code violation

Bengaluru: Firstsource Solutions has reported a code of conduct violation by its chief financial officer, Dinesh Jain, after he traded the company's shares during a trading window closure and executed contra trades, according to a stock exchange filing. The company said Jain, who is also its president and a designated person under Sebi's insider trading regulations, sold 7,211 shares at Rs 242 apiece and bought back the same number at Rs 238.6 on Monday. The transaction value exceeded Rs 10 lakh, triggering disclosure requirements under Sebi's Prohibition of Insider Trading (PIT) Regulations. The firm said Jain informed the compliance officer of the breach, following which it notified the stock exchanges the same day. TNN

Magicbricks, crosses 8mn unique visitors

New Delhi: Real estate platform Magicbricks has cemented its leadership position by crossing 8 million monthly unique visitors, according to comScore (May 2026).

"The latest traffic figures highlight Magicbricks' clear leadership over other major real estate platforms, with 99acres recording 7.6 million monthly unique visitors, NoBroker at 6.1 million, and Housing.com at 5.6 million," the company said in a statement.

Magicbricks said it has consistently invested in technology, artificial intelligence-driven recommendations, verified property listings, market intelligence, and consumer-first innovations to simplify the property buying and selling journey. TNN

Seeking mobile nos for policy info 'dark pattern': Irdai chief

Asks Policy Institute To Track Such Practices Over 9 Mths

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: IRDAI has flagged insurers seeking personal information to provide quotes or policy details as a 'dark pattern' and has commissioned a study by a public policy institute to define and track such practices over nine months.

Speaking at an event organised by the Life Insurance Council, Ajay Seth, chairman, Irdai, said the industry must focus on covering the missing middle, a large segment that is neither poor nor wealthy. He said insurance penetration should be measured by the number of people covered rather than premium as a share of GDP, as the latter can rise through the sale of high-value policies.

In online regulation, 'dark patterns' refer to practices that manipulate users into sharing data or making choices they may not otherwise make. "If I need a quote on a term plan, I have to necessarily agree to be educated about products of large insurers. Product discovery is hidden behind a wall of personal data collection. Not that everyone is doing this, but it is a concern. If people do not have a choice to know the product, price, and performance freely, how will they take a decision?," said Seth.

'Data Collection Wall Hides Product Discovery

- Irdai chairman **Ajay Seth** flagged the practice of asking for personal info in exchange for policy details a 'dark pattern'. Irdai has asked Institute of Public Policy to monitor entities using such practices
- Seth asked how people can make choices if they can't freely know about products, their prices and performance
- Insurance should not be used for estate planning purposes, Seth said, questioning the rationale for selling life insurance to 85 year olds
- On listing of the regulator, Seth said the promoter should go to market for capital requirements, and not to ensure transparency

Seth said Irdai had asked insurers about timelines to comply with norms on avoiding dark patterns, and most companies said they did not have such practices in their online processes. Following this, IRDAI has asked the Institute of Public Policy to conduct a study and monitor over nine months which entities deploy dark patterns and which do not.

Seth also questioned the rationale for selling life insurance to 85-year-olds and said insurance should not be used for estate planning purposes. The regulator has also shifted its stance on listing under Seth. Former chairman Debasis Panda had said that once a company achieves scale and age, listing should be a natural progression, as it brings benefits such as better disclosures and more value for policyholders. He said that the regulator would be coming out with distribution guidelines that will define suitability of products.

Seth said listing should be driven by promoters' capital requirements. "My view is, go to the market if you need capital, not for transparency. The regulator is capable of making sure that everybody is comfortable with respect to transparency," said Seth.

Banks pass stress test, RBI flags gold loan, pvt credit risks

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Banks' bad loans, which are at a multi-decadal low, are expected to rise marginally to 1.9% by March 2028 under a baseline scenario from 1.8% in March 2026, even as capital ratios are projected to moderate over the same period according to RBI's bi-annual Financial Stability Report.

According to the macro stress test results and sensitivity analysis by RBI, the capital and asset quality positions of 46 select scheduled commercial banks over a two-year horizon up to March 2028 are expected to remain stable. Under the baseline scenario, the aggregate gross NPA (non-performing asset) ratio is expected to edge up from 1.8% in March 2026 to 1.9% by March 2028. Under adverse scenario 1, which assumes a moderate shock, the ratio is projected to rise to 3.8%, while under adverse scenario 2, which assumes a severe shock, it is projected to rise to 4.1%. Capital buffers remain above norms even under adverse scenarios. Aggregate CRAR fell from 17.5% in March 2026 to 15.6% by March 2028 under the baseline, and dropped to 13.3% and 13.0% under adverse scenario 1 and 2 respectively. CET1 slid from 15.2% to 13.9% under baseline, and further to 11.6% and 11.4% under the two adverse stress scenarios. "Strong growth, low inflation, healthy balance sheets of financial and nonfinancial firms, and ample buffers have helped preserve macro-financial stability.," said RBI governor Sanjay Malhotra in a foreword to the report.

Banks' Bad Loans May Rise To 1.9% By Mar '28

RBI's Financial Stability Report	March 2026	March 2028 (Estimated)		
Ratio (%)	Current	Baseline Scenario	Moderate Shock	Severe Shock
Agg. Gross NPA	1.8	1.9	3.8	4.1
Agg. CRAR (Capital Adequacy)	17.5	15.6	13.3	13
CET1 (Common Equity Tier 1)	15.2	13.9	11.6	11.4

Source: RBI

MongoDB scales India engg, skilling efforts

Shilpa.Phadnis
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: MongoDB is strengthening its India presence as both a growth market and an engineering hub. It has over 700 employees across Bengaluru, Mumbai and Gurugram and plans to skill two million people by 2030 to meet rising demand for AI-ready talent.

"We have more than 700 employees across Bengaluru, Mumbai and Gurugram, spanning go-to-market teams, corporate functions and engineering," said **Aamir Sait**, vice-president, India, MongoDB.

"Beyond being a large market, India is also a significant hub for innovation and talent, and our engineering teams here are contributing to mission-critical parts of the MongoDB platform." MongoDB's India engineering team builds key components of the company's platform, including the management plane for MongoDB Enterprise Advanced.

The company, which now positions itself as a unified AI data platform, serves 50 of India's top 100 listed companies by market capitalisation and more than 50 unicorns. MongoDB has also expanded its education initiative after achieving its earlier target of training 500,000 learners ahead of schedule. It now plans to train two million people by 2030 through partnerships with around 1,500 colleges and universities. "It's about creating job-ready talent," said Raghu Viswanathan, vice-president, education, academia and documentation at MongoDB. "We're teaching databases and AI capabilities, providing hands-on exercises, badges and formal certification."

Reorient agri pricing policies, rain deficit a concern: Finmin

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid a prediction of below normal monsoon season, which has resulted in 22% decline in total area sown under kharif crop in June, finance ministry has called for the need to "reorient" agricultural pricing policies to incentivise the cultivation of climate-resilient crops and disincentivise water intensive ones, along with building water buffers.

"The weak progress of the south west monsoon has weighed on kharif sowing, and the monsoon deficit is a concern. Among many things India needs to build buffers in the coming years, water may be at the top of the list," said the finance ministry in its latest monthly economic review which was released on Tuesday.

The review noted a decline in sowing acreage during the month for major crops like pulses (30%), oilseeds (53%), rice (25%), foodgrains (21%) and cereals (18%) due to cumulative rainfall remaining 43% below the long period average (LPA) till June 28. Only 26% meteorological subdivisions have recorded normal and excess rainfall during this time. Meanwhile, the review said combined wheat and rice stocks exceed 4.4 times the prescribed buffer norm and provide a cushion against potential supply-side disruptions.

Addressing the concerns raised around the West Asia conflict, the review said "easing" of global energy market stress in June resulted in moderation of crude oil prices, which has "brightened" the outlook for growth and also reduced inflation and external deficit risks.

The conflict, however, underscored the need for a national policy on buffer stocks for a range of critical raw materials and inputs.

Govt extends duty exemption on petrochems

Govt on Tuesday extended the full customs duty exemption on critical petrochemicals till July 15 to ensure a "smooth and non-disruptive transition" for the affected sectors, as the conflict in West Asia signals moderation. TNN

War-driven commodity inflation will take time to settle, says HUL's Paranjpe

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Commodity inflation driven by the West Asia war has been 'significant' in the June quarter and it will take a while for things to come to normalcy, said Nitin Paranjpe, chairman at Hindustan Unilever (HUL), projecting short-term growth to be hit by volatility and challenges. The conflict that dragged on for months disrupted energy supplies, pushing up oil prices to over $100 per barrel and weighing on raw material costs for companies, which nudged them to take at least one round of price hikes.

A fragile truce is in place for now and oil prices have cooled, but with local retail fuel price increases feeding into broader inflation, firms will have to pass on part of the cost impact to consumers.

> The defining challenge for businesses today is not just to navigate the present, but to build the moats that will win in the future. Because resilience and reinvention are not separate agendas
>
>
>
> —Nitin Paranjpe | CHAIRMAN, HINDUSTAN UNILEVER

"Business resilience today is about building better systems: supply chains that can shift when a route is disrupted....factories that can switch faster...sourcing models that reduce dependency on any single material or geography," Paranjpe told shareholders at the company's annual general meeting (AGM) on Tuesday.

HUL has already hiked prices by 2-5% to cope with a 8-10% cost inflation while signalling that more increases could be in the offing. Paranjpe said that the company is tapping into its cost efficiency programmes to shield consumers against larger price hikes. Analysts at Goldman Sachs estimate the impact of fuel price hikes to weigh primarily on Q2 (CY) consumption with some spillover into Q3 (CY) as households adjust to higher fuel costs. For companies, the bigger challenge going ahead is tackling the expected impact of weak monsoons on rural consumption, key to driving sales volumes.

Rural demand has been outpacing urban for FMCG companies for the past several quarters.

Indian consumers, Paranjpe said, are exhibiting a "dual-speed behaviour"—remaining value conscious even as they experiment with new formats, flavours and premium offerings. Under new CEO Priya Nair, HUL has sharpened focus on creating different strategies for different consumer classes. The company has also doubled down on quick commerce, deployed AI across the value chain, stepped up premiumisation push and acquisition of new-age brands amid changing consumption patterns.

GST rate reset led to consumption boost

Tax Collection Rose To Avg ₹1.1L Cr, Despite Average Rate Falling From 14.4% To 12.8%

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New Delhi: It was a year that was marked by the biggest reset since GST was launched nine years ago and marks a complete change in thinking within the policy dispensation, which had earlier focused on revenue neutral rates.

Instead, six months after an overhaul of rates on nearly 400 items has shown that higher consumption has helped increase tax collection to an average Rs 1.1 lakh crore, despite the average tax rate falling from 14.4% to 12.8%.

The average monthly taxable supply is seen to be over 22% higher in the post rate rationalisation period, with the volume growing up to 60% in case of precious metals and 21% for vehicles and 16% (see graphic). The only sector where it shrunk was in the financial services spaces, driven by life and health insurance moving to 0% from 18% earlier.

Overall growth in B2C revenue is of the order of 21.6% in the post rationalisation phase, according to data sourced from finance ministry.

"Consumption has truly shot up. Take household goods, vehicles or cement, everywhere, consumption is higher. It is also reflected in the GDP data. Spending is increasing across sectors that is why the base has gone up, compensating for rate rationalisation. That was a bet that the finance minister took and it is showing. It has acted as buffer during a period of uncertainty," said MS Mani, partner at consulting firm Deloitte India.

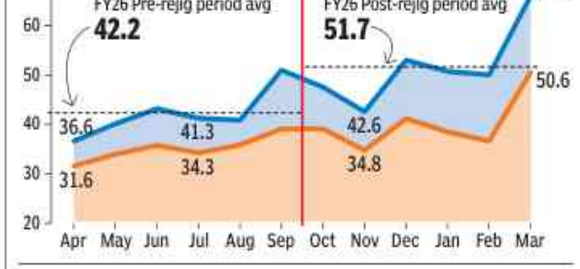
The rate rationalisation exercise moved from merely protecting revenue to lowering the burden for consumers, transitioning to two slabs of 5% and 18%, removing classification issues and disputes and boosting demand. The move also ended up silencing the critics of the tax reform – among the biggest initiatives of the Modi govt.

"GST 2.0 and its rate rationalisation were a thoughtfully planned reform, designed to alleviate the tax burden, eliminate distortions, boost competitiveness and increase disposable income for consumers. Despite external pressures — like tensions in West Asia, rising oil prices, and currency volatility — India's resilience was reinforced by GST 2.0, which played a pivotal role in supporting domestic consumption and stabilising the economy," said Devesh Uniyal, partner and tax & finance consulting Leader at Grant Thornton Bharat.

What the experts do not mention is that a lower tax regime has also helped check leakages as the incentive for cash payments has come down. Over the last nine years, GST has grown in size and scale. From 66.5 lakh registered taxpayers in 2017, the numbers has increased to 1.65 crore at the end of May. Collections have soared from Rs 7.4 lakh crore (July-March) 2017-18, when it was implemented, to Rs 22.3 lakh crore last year.

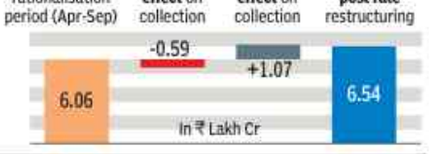
LESSER TAXES, MORE TRACTION

Average monthly taxable supply (revenue) has grown 22.5% post GST rate restructuring



Average monthly taxable turnover has grown across sectors, so has B2C revenue, except in financial services

Despite rate restructuring, **tax collection has improved** on account of increase in taxable supply base



Govt extends date for filing appeals before GST tribunal beyond June 30

New Delhi: Govt has extended the due date for filing appeals before the Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) beyond the earlier deadline of June 30. "Govt has extended the due date in view of the recent representations from various stakeholders, highlighting technical difficulties due to rush to file appeals on the GSTAT portal. Although the due date was notified well in advance in Sept 2025 itself, it is to be noted that in the last 15 days alone, 30,000 appeals were filed, with daily volumes peaking at 5,500 appeals," an official statement said. TNN

Taj Bandstand key to IHCL's growth strategy

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Mumbai: Indian Hotels Company, which operates the Taj chain, plans to invest between Rs 6,000 crore and Rs 7,500 crore over the next five years to expand in India and select overseas markets, alongside fresh investments in digital and cybersecurity, chairman **N Chandrasekaran** told shareholders on Tuesday. The centrepiece is Taj Bandstand, a 50-storey, 500-plus-room property in Mumbai's Bandra suburb, still in final design. The project will cost Rs 2,000 crore, funded entirely through internal accruals, and is expected to be ready by FY2030-31. Chandrasekaran said the company hoped it would be "an iconic property." The group remains debt-free, with Rs 4,300 crore in cash. Capex typically runs at Rs 1,000-1,200 crore a year, split between upgrading existing properties and building new ones. Chandrasekaran said there were no plans to raise equity or borrow to fund the expansion.

On Taj GVK, the Hyderabad-based venture in which IHCL recently divested its stake, the Taj name will continue for a few months before being dropped, he said. IHCL has retained all management contracts on the properties, consistent with its asset-light growth strategy. On technology, Chandrasekaran said the company will invest across digital and cybersecurity, applicable not just to IHCL but to other Tata group companies, with a focus on ensuring AI agents can pick up information on its products, services and properties. Internationally, expansion will be selective, with a new Frankfurt property opening this year. Forex revenue stands about $108 million, a small share of overall turnover, Chandrasekaran said.

Voltas sells 1mn units in 81 days as India sizzles

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Mumbai: Voltas entered the new financial year on a strong footing, with its room air conditioning business crossing the milestone of one million units in a record 81 days, chairman **Noel Tata** said Tuesday at what marked his final annual general meeting as chairman of the Tata Group's consumer durables company. The business sold more than 22 lakh units in FY2026, with March alone accounting for over 5 lakh units — the strongest single-month sales in the company's history. Its Chennai facility, India's largest integrated room AC plant, continued to scale through the year. "I have great satisfaction that Voltas stands strong today," Noel said.

Noel, 69, steps down as chairman in Nov, tied to his upcoming 70th birthday, a retirement threshold the group has applied to non-executive directors. He joined the Voltas board in Jan 2003 and was appointed chairman in Sept 2017, succeeding Ishaat Hussain. Trent held its AGM last week, which also marked Noel's last AGM as chairman of the retailer.

In the broader durables business, VoltBek, a JV with Turkey's Arcelik, posted double-digit volume growth in FY2026, with sales of washing machines, refrigerators and other appliances crossing 33 lakh units. Noel said VoltBek had compounded at more than 30% annually over five years and now ranks second in the semi-automatic washing machine segment, with 14.5% market share. Noel also pointed to Voltas' leadership bench built through internal promotions and external hires, saying the "close cooperation of seasoned practitioners and new talent" will help the company continue to take "big strides in all business segments."

TECH **I'D LIKE** TO SEE

CAPITAL THAT WORKS WHILE WE SLEEP

I'd like to see a world where capital no longer waits for humans to move it. In the future I imagine, money is intelligent – tokenised, programmable, and globally connected. Currencies, real-world assets, and smart cash form a digital fabric that allows value to move instantly, transparently, and without borders. Tokenisation changes the role of money itself. Assets won't just be stored on ledgers; they'll actively optimise where capital should flow, automate contracts, and power always-on markets. Settlement won't take days. Liquidity won't be locked. Ownership won't be constrained by geography or legacy systems. With well-regulated asset tokens and stablecoins, global payments can become near-instant and radically more transparent. For enterprises, this means fewer intermediaries, lower friction, and financial systems that respond in real time – not after the opportunity has passed. The final piece is AI embedded deeply across the ecosystem. AI won't just monitor risk; it will anticipate it. Digital assets will adapt to market signals and compliance requirements automatically.

Raghu Pareddy | FOUNDER & CEO, WISSEN TECHNOLOGY

AI Career Edge PODCAST

AI career lessons from the founder of India's first AI company

Live on YouTube. Scan the QR or go to the URL to set a reminder

Srikanth Velamakanni | CO-FOUNDER & GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE, FRACTAL; CHAIRPERSON, NASSCOM

WEDNESDAY July 1, 3 PM

Event page link: https://bit.ly/Aicareeredge11

FORGET THE AI MODELS; India is building the products

India may not have an OpenAI of its own, but global giants are building the AI products of tomorrow from here

Akhil George & Sujit John | TNN

For months, the conversation around India's place in the AI race has been dominated by what the country lacks. It has no OpenAI, no DeepMind and no home-grown frontier model capable of matching the world's most powerful AI systems. Critics argue that India risks becoming a consumer of AI rather than a creator of it.

But that view overlooks where much of AI innovation is actually taking place. Across healthcare, smartphones, automotive engineering and industrial systems, global companies are choosing India not merely to deploy AI, but to invent it. Indian engineers are building AI that cuts MRI scan times in half, developing language models that run directly on smartphones used by millions worldwide, shrinking vehicle development cycles, and designing autonomous driving systems for some of the world's toughest roads. Far from sitting on the sidelines of the AI revolution, India is now one of the world's most important centres for applied AI research and engineering.

"People originally came to India for cost and scale," Kishor Patil, co-founder & CEO of KPIT Technologies, and vice chairperson of Nasscom, noted during a webinar we held recently in association with Nasscom. "Today, the most important factors are speed, reliability and innovation. India means innovation."

That shift is being driven by a combination of deep engineering talent, decades of software expertise, experience in building products for global markets and access to one of the world's richest and most diverse pools of real-world data. Those strengths are persuading MNCs to move increasingly sophisticated AI R&D work to India.

Patil, who is also vice chairperson of Nasscom, believes the timing could not be better. Technologies like AI are making it possible to create real business value "Most MNCs are expanding here and Indian enterprises themselves have started adopting technology much faster," he said.

> India has a big opportunity today to build products for the world. You can take technologies such as AI and create real business value. In automotive, you can use AI to sharply reduce the time needed in the validation phase. In research, AI can help to get more out of the same dollar. India spends just 0.7% of GDP on research, while it's 4% in more advanced countries. We really need to step up research, and AI can help do that.
>
> **Kishor Patil** | CO-FOUNDER, CEO & MD, KPIT TECHNOLOGIES, AND VICE CHAIRPERSON, NASSCOM

> Our centre is no longer simply adapting products for local markets. It is one of Samsung's key global R&D centres contributing to the development of Galaxy AI technologies and experiences, working closely with Samsung's worldwide research network. Many of these innovations are now available on Samsung smartphones used by millions of people around the world.
>
> **Mohan Rao Goli** | CORPORATE VP & MD, SAMSUNG R&D INSTITUTE INDIA-BENGALURU

> India's software and digital capabilities have laid a strong foundation for AI innovation. In healthcare, with AI, our focus is on improving the entire clinical workflow so doctors spend more time with patients. For instance, we've dramatically reduced the time for an MRI scan. The work is being done in India, using Indian data sets and clinicians, and the products are now being deployed commercially across the world.
>
> **Arvind Vaishnav** | HEAD, PHILIPS INNOVATION CAMPUS

> Today, most products are becoming software-defined, which plays to India's strengths. The opportunity is to combine engineering, data and AI in the right way. At TCS, we are trying to build autonomous cars for the Indian market. It is a very hard problem to solve because Indian roads present unique challenges. AI helps us simulate scenarios and generate data that would otherwise be difficult to obtain.
>
> **Sai Prasad** | CTO - IOT AND DIGITAL ENGINEERING, TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES (TCS)

Making AI fit in your pocket

You can see that at Samsung's R&D centre in Bengaluru, one of the company's largest research hubs outside South Korea. It is one of Samsung's key R&D centres contributing to the development of Galaxy AI technologies and experiences, working closely with the company's worldwide research network. Many of these innovations are now available on Samsung smartphones used by millions of people around the world.

One of the most recognisable features is Live Translate, which allows two people speaking different languages to hold conversations in real time.

"You can speak in your native language and the other person hears it in theirs," said Mohan Rao Goli, corporate VP and MD of Samsung R&D Institute India-Bengaluru. "Our teams in Bengaluru contribute to the development and optimisation of language AI technologies."

The India team also contributes AI-powered features such as Photo Assist and computer vision capabilities that allow smartphones to better understand images and generate content. It's a hard engineering challenge. Unlike cloud-based AI systems that rely on powerful data centres, these models have to run directly on smartphones. "You have constraints like battery life, thermal limits, memory footprint and limited computing power," Goli noted. That means sophisticated AI models have to be redesigned to deliver fast responses while preserving battery life, protecting user privacy and functioning even without an internet connection.

Indian engineers, Goli said, are moving from technology implementation to product innovation, platform engineering and product technology leadership within global R&D organisations.

Transforming MRIs

At Philips Innovation Campus in Bengaluru, Indian engineers are building AI technologies that are already transforming healthcare across the world. Rather than simply helping doctors detect diseases, AI is being woven into the entire clinical workflow to reduce the time in diagnosing and treating, which allows doctors to spend more time with patients and treat more people.

"A typical MRI scan can take around an hour," said Arvind Vaishnav, head of Philips Innovation Campus. "We developed an AI platform that can reduce that scan time to around 30 minutes, and in some applications even below 15 minutes."

So, patients spend less time inside the MRI scanner, clinicians examine more people every day, and hospitals make better use of expensive equipment.

AI is also dramatically reducing the time required to prepare scans. "Planning a cardiac MRI used to take 14 or 15 minutes," Vaishnav said. "Today AI reduces cardiac scan planning to less than a minute."

The technology, he said, was conceived and built in India, using Indian data sets and working closely with clinicians here. The products are now being sold commercially across the world."

Rise of software-defined machines

Automotive engineering is undergoing an equally dramatic transformation. Vehicles are becoming software-defined machines where AI is increasingly involved in design, testing and eventually driving itself. But according to Sai Prasad, CTO for IoT and digital engineering at TCS, success depends less on using AI everywhere than on knowing where it genuinely adds value.

"Everybody wants to use generative AI, but that is only one part of AI," he said. "If you are making engineering decisions that affect passenger safety or medical devices, you need a combination of engineering knowledge, physics and AI. Identifying the right use cases is extremely important."

TCS is using AI to build digital factory operating systems that allow manufacturers to deploy AI applications at scale. The company is also working on autonomous driving technologies specifically designed for Indian roads. "It is a very hard problem to solve because Indian roads present unique challenges. AI helps us simulate scenarios and generate data that would otherwise be difficult to obtain."

KPIT is applying AI to one of the biggest bottlenecks in automotive development: validation – the painstaking process of testing whether every system in a vehicle functions safely before it reaches customers. "If you can reduce validation by nine to twelve months, it changes everything," Patil said. "It allows manufacturers to launch products much faster." He believes this capability could help India emerge as a major global automotive technology player.

Prasad noted that the fuel for innovation is data, and India generates incredibly diverse data. That, he said, gives us a big advantage if we use it responsibly.

The road to patents begins with curiosity

Curiosity has a very strong relationship with innovation. I joined Sandisk in 2013. Over the years, I have worked across SD and microSD cards, USB flash drives, and portable SSDs, which broadened my product-level understanding. These products are sold in millions worldwide. In the last two and a half years, I have contributed to 9 trade secrets, 20 patent filings, and 73 invention disclosures. Last year, I was recognised as one of the top IP filers within the flash products group at the company.

It took me ten years, working across various products, technologies, and challenges to begin my intellectual property (IP) contributions. Along with a decade of foundational work, a constant desire to know why things are done in a certain way and whether they can be improved, started me on my innovation journey.

Hardware engineering comes with many constraints such as size, power, thermal limits, cost, and signal integrity. You are constantly addressing challenges such as how do you ensure thermal efficiency or strong performance in an ultra-compact form factor. However, within these challenges are opportunities for innovation. The first ten years of my journey also helped me deeply understand what had already been done, which in turn enabled me to identify how it could be approached differently. Instead of making conventional incremental changes from product to product, I began focusing on paradigm-level shifts that could meaningfully redefine design approaches.

Submitting my first invention disclosure came with uncertainty and self-doubt about whether the idea was truly novel. Articulating the concept clearly and framing its technical uniqueness was more challenging than I expected. Translating practical engineering work into structured IP language requires a different way of thinking. The early stages felt complex and unfamiliar, especially understanding the expectations of the patent process. My team and the IP team handheld me and helped me through the IP submission process.

Raghavan Nagarajan | TECHNOLOGIST, HARDWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERING, SANDISK

PATENT PATHFINDERS: TURNING WORK INTO WONDERS

Innovation thrives at the intersection of disciplines

Thinking across functions and areas of specialisation can help in identifying gaps that can lead to high value IP. This is where collaboration comes into play as ideas mature through discussion and refinement. For example, in my field, many impactful ideas arise when hardware, system-in-packages (SiPs), firmware, systems, and product requirements meet. Cross-functional understanding helps engineers spot unique ideas and convert them into an impactful IP.

One such example is the Sandisk Extreme Fit USB-C Flash Drive. Despite its ultra compact design, this tiny flash drive delivers strong performance through innovations in hardware and system-in-package design. Close collaboration among hardware, package, and manufacturing teams enabled a tiny, reliable, thermally efficient design.

The patent formula

The best patents are a product of real-life engineering challenges as opposed to an abstract idea. If you are a technologist looking to file patents, my suggestion is simple – look beyond the status quo. Focus on recurring challenges and ask yourself, "Is there a smarter way to solve this?" or "Can this idea be generalised into a reusable solution?"

Working with multi-disciplined teams will enhance your ability to identify greater forms of opportunity. Document ideas early as capturing initial thoughts helps preserve originality. Share ideas openly; feedback strengthens novelty and clarity. Also, learn the patent process to frame disclosures effectively.

Finally, stay patient and be persistent – innovation is built gradually. Not every idea becomes a patent, but every attempt improves your ability to innovate.

It's so satisfying when your tech makes a difference

Nandita Saini

I started my journey in the technology sector in 1996, after graduating as a computer science engineer. I always had an affinity for science and mathematics, and engineering seemed like the most natural choice during a period when the sector was growing at a rapid pace. Software was beginning to transform back office, middle office, and front office operations across sectors, and the scale of opportunity was both energising and motivating.

CAREER LADDER FOR WOMEN

Over the years, technological revolutions have impacted the way businesses and consumers engage with technology. Alongside these shifts, I have evolved from building mainframe-based applications to overseeing challenging technology programmes in the healthcare industry. As a leader, I have always believed that innovation should be converted into practical, tangible impact. Even now, the most satisfying experiences are those where technology makes a difference, whether it's enabling a patient in a rural setting to access a specialist, or it's facilitating large-scale clinical trials, or assisting researchers in analysing large data sets to speed up discoveries.

Learning to manage time & priorities | Like many working parents, I have had to navigate my journey about time and priorities. The software industry requires dedication, but it also provides meaning and opportunities for development. I am proud of what I have accomplished in my career and of the role model I have been for my children, who have developed into confident and self-reliant young adults with excellent decision-making skills.

Investing in oneself | Early in my career, I discovered that being a good leader also means making a good investment in oneself. I have made time for personal development through reading, travel, photography, learning, and creative activities, which have often been incorporated into family life. These passions have informed my perspective, enhanced my empathy, and allowed me to be a more down-to-earth leader for my teams and customers. I have also taken time out of corporate life to help with the research and publication of a novel about an important era in modern Indian history, which further emphasised the importance of curiosity and lifelong learning.

Nandita Saini is associate VP of engineering at GlobalLogic

INSPIRED BY GRANDMA: *Pune student's design wins Apple award*

SwatiShindeGole@timesofindia.com

For most families, watching an elderly parent or grandparent struggle to hold a pen, sign a document, or draw a simple sketch is a familiar and heartbreaking experience. In Pune, one such personal moment inspired a young engineering student to build a technology solution that is now drawing international attention.

Gayatri Goundadkar, a computer science engineering student at Pune's MIT World Peace University, has developed 'SteadyHands', an iPad application designed to help people living with hand tremors regain confidence while drawing and expressing themselves creatively.

The innovation recently earned her recognition as a Distinguished Winner (top-50 worldwide) in the Apple Swift Student Challenge 2026, one of the company's most prestigious global student competitions. Her work took her from Pune to Apple's Worldwide Developers Conference 2026, where she presented SteadyHands to Apple engineers and senior leaders, including Tim Cook and John Ternus, the outgoing and incoming CEOs of Apple.

Gayatri Goundadkar, with Tim Cook and John Ternus, outgoing and incoming CEOs of Apple, at the company's Worldwide Developers Conference 2026 in Cupertino, California

The idea for SteadyHands emerged from Gayatri's relationship with her grandmother, who loved drawing and spent hours sketching with her as a child. However, as she grew older, Essential Tremor – a neurological movement disorder that causes involuntary shaking of the hands – gradually made drawing difficult.

"Some of my happiest childhood memories are sitting beside my grandmother with a pencil and sketchbook. We'd spend hours drawing together. As her hands began to shake, drawing became harder, and one day she simply stopped. That moment stayed with me," Gayatri recalled.

Determined to find a solution, Gayatri began researching existing technologies for people with tremors. While she found tools focused on eating assistance, symptom tracking, medication, and surgery, she couldn't find a solution specifically designed for people who simply wanted to keep drawing and expressing themselves creatively. That realisation led to the creation of SteadyHands..

> Some of my happiest childhood memories are sitting beside my grandmother with a pencil and sketchbook. We'd spend hours drawing together. As her hands began to shake, drawing became harder, and one day she simply stopped. That moment stayed with me.
> —Gayatri Goundadkar

The application starts with a one-minute 'tremor scan' that analyses a user's unique tremor pattern. Through activities such as holding an Apple Pencil still, tracing spirals and straight lines, and tapping targets on the screen, the app assesses hand stability, tremor severity, precision, and fine motor control.

Using this data, SteadyHands automatically adjusts drawing settings including stroke stabilisation and adaptive assistance. Instead of requiring users to navigate technical controls, the app personalises the experience before they begin drawing. Beyond technological assistance, Gayatri wanted the platform to help users rebuild confidence.

The app includes five training exercises designed to improve steadiness, control, precision, and grip management. One exercise, called 'Corridor Path', asks users to trace a route while staying within narrow boundaries, helping them practise controlled movement and corrective hand motions.

"As much as I wanted technology to help my grandmother draw, I also wanted it to help her feel confident enough to draw again," she said.

Perhaps the most unique feature is the app's virtual 'Museum', inspired by conversations with artists living with tremors. "An artist told me that what he missed most wasn't painting itself – it was seeing his finished work displayed and feeling proud about it," Gayatri said.

Completed artwork can be showcased in a personalised 3D digital gallery, allowing users to celebrate their creativity and achievements. The innovation is currently undergoing the patent process, while Gayatri continues to develop additional features and prepare the application for launch on the App Store through a subscription model.

"Presenting SteadyHands at WWDC was one of the most meaningful moments. It was inspiring to share a project rooted in my grandmother's story with people from around the world who believe in the power of technology to make a difference," Gayatri said.

What began as a granddaughter's desire to help a loved one rediscover a lost passion has now evolved into a promising innovation that could help millions of people with hand tremors reclaim their creativity — one stroke at a time.

CTRL+F(IND)

Computer Vision

Computer vision is a branch of artificial intelligence that enables computers to interpret and understand images and videos. Instead of simply storing visual data, computer vision systems identify objects, recognise faces, detect defects, read text and track movement by analysing patterns in pixels. They learn these tasks using large datasets and machine learning models, particularly deep learning. The technology powers applications such as self-driving cars, medical imaging, factory quality inspections, facial recognition and security cameras. As cameras become cheaper and AI models more capable, computer vision is increasingly helping machines make decisions based on what they see, often in real time.

GOAL RUSH

11 Jun 2026 – 19 Jul 2026

TIMES SPORT | THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026

"THIS IS NOT THE GERMANY I KNOW AND IT'S CERTAINLY NOT THE GERMANY I FOUGHT FOR. YOU CANNOT WEAR THE GERMANY SHIRT AND PLAY WITH SO LITTLE URGENCY, SO LITTLE AGGRESSION AND SO LITTLE BELIEF."

— LOTHAR MATTHAUS,
WORLD CUP WINNER WITH GERMANY

Getty Images

NEW ORDER

European Giants Struggle Against Organised And Fearless Opponents: Two-Time Finalists Netherlands Shown The Door By Higher-Ranked Morocco, Four-Time Winners Germany Eliminated By Paraguay

BRINGING THE HOUSE DOWN: Ismael Saibari celebrates after scoring the winning penalty against the Netherlands

"I really didn't expect this kind of low block because the Netherlands like to have the ball and are very strong when they do. I saw this type of play as a form of respect." —Mohamed Ouahbi
MOROCCO COACH

"It's clear watching this World Cup that African teams have greatly improved in tactical sense, and also in the way they play their matches. Morocco is the country that, in terms of talent, really generates good players, young players that continue to join the major clubs in Europe. It's not without a reason why they are higher ranked than the Dutch." —Ronald Koeman
NETHERLANDS COACH

"It's a complete joke that it (Tah's goal) was disallowed (by VAR). But in the end, if you're eliminated in the first knockout round of such a big tournament with so many teams, it's clearly not enough for German football." —Julian Nagelsmann
GERMANY COACH

"Our opponents are developed in the best academies in Europe. We come from the red earth. We learned to play football barefoot, with parents making sacrifices so their children could pursue their dreams. That's where we come from." —Gustavo Alfaro
PARAGUAY COACH

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Atlas Lions' late roar crushes Dutch dreams

Monterrey: Morocco coach Mohamed Ouahbi said his side had earned respect after knocking the Netherlands out of the World Cup in a penalty shootout on Monday, adding that his players were fuelled by the desire to make the millions watching back home proud.

Morocco beat the Dutch 3-2 on penalties after a 1-1 draw to reach the last 16, where they will face co-hosts Canada.

Ismael Saibari converted the winning spot kick after goalkeeper Yassine Bounou had saved Crysencio Summerville's attempt.

"Morocco has gained everybody's respect now," Ouahbi told reporters. "It's not because of what we've said. We've now shown it."

The coach, who stepped up from Morocco's under-20 setup after helping guide the country's youth teams to success, said his players were driven by something greater than football. "This team, and all the Moroccan youth teams, are fighting for much, much more than just football or simply winning a match," he said. "They know that behind them there are millions and millions of people. We played when it was two in the morning in Morocco and we're certain that most people stayed awake. That gives you the energy not to give up, to keep going and to believe in yourself."

Ouahbi said Morocco had dominated the match despite needing penalties to progress.

"We completely dominated a Netherlands team," he said. "We had 70% possession, more shots and more expected goals. We controlled the match. We wanted to stay calm, play our game and believe that if it went to penalties we had an exceptional goalkeeper. We didn't turn it into a chaotic battle. We controlled it."

Xinhua

SAVIOUR: Morocco's Bounou

The 49-year-old felt Morocco's run to the semi-finals at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar had changed the country's mentality. "For the past few years, Moroccan players believe in themselves and the supporters believe in us as well," he said.

Koeman expected to leave

Netherlands coach Ronald Koeman is expected to announce his resignation. Koeman refused to make any definite statement on his future but an underwhelming second stint in charge makes it unlikely he will stay amid a barrage of criticism from Dutch media. Home media accused Koeman of abandoning the 'Dutch school' of attacking football by playing five defenders against Morocco. "You can think whatever you like, but we gave away much less against a team much stronger than Sweden and Tunisia. And if I had to do it again, I would do it the same way," Koeman said. AGENCIES

TAKEDOWN OF TIE-BREAK KINGS

German grit was always epitomised by the way they used to approach their penalties. For years, a tie-breaker against Germany virtually meant the end of the match in favour of the unflappable giants. All that changed against Paraguay in Boston on Monday...

ONCE UPON A TIME: Antonin Panenka of Czechoslovakia chips the ball past Sepp Maier in the 1976 Euro final. The unique chip from the penalty spot, which deceived the keeper expecting a shot, became famous as the 'Panenka'

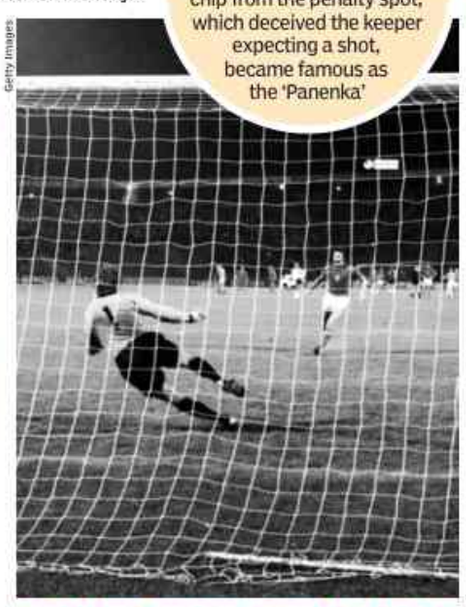
HOW THE SHOOTOUT WENT

GERMANY 3 - 4 PARAGUAY
ROUND OF 32

GERMANY		ROUND		PARAGUAY
HAVERTZ	✗	1	✓	MAURICIO
KIMMICH	✓	2	✓	Gomez
MUSIALA	✓	3	✓	GALARZA
WOLTEMADE	✗	4	✗	SANABRIA
AMIRI	✓	5	✗	BALBUENA
TAH	✗	SUDDEN DEATH	✓	CANALE (WINNER)

PARAGUAY WIN 4-3 ON PENALTIES
AFTER EXTRA TIME: 1-1

Getty Images



- **Fifty years** is a long time. The last time Germany (erstwhile West Germany) **lost a tie-breaker was the Euro final of 1976**, when erstwhile Czechoslovakia's **Antonin Panenka broke German dreams** of becoming simultaneous world and European champs.
- **The last time a German missed a penalty** in the World Cup **was in the first ever shoot-out in the 1982 semis against France.** Uli Stielike fluffed his lines but **Germany went on to win a famous World Cup match 8-7.**
- Germany **won three back-to-back WC tie-breakers** after that from 1982-2006, **beating Mexico (1986), England (1990) and Argentina (2006). Power, instead of mind-games**, used to be their strategy.
- **The last time Germany found themselves in a tie-breaker situation** in a big-game was **against Italy in the 2016 Euros.** They went on to win it in a marathon sudden death.
- **Monday's loss will be more painful** not only because of the **three misses from the spot**, but because of **Jonathan Tah's** miss in sudden-death **after Manuel Neuer had brought them back from the dead.**

TWO SIDES OF THE STORY: Paraguayan players celebrate as the Germans are left to rue their misses in the penalty shootout

Wretched run continues for Dutch

HOW THE SHOOTOUT WENT

NETHERLANDS 2 - 3 MOROCCO
ROUND OF 32

NETHERLANDS		ROUND		MOROCCO
T. KOOPMEINERS	✓	1	✗	N. EL AYNAOUI
J. KLUIVERT	✗	2	✓	S. RAHIMI
W. WEGHORST	✓	3	✓	C. TALBI
O. TIMBER	✗	4	✗	A. HAKIMI
C. SUMMERVILLE	✗	5	✓	I. SAIBARI (WINNER)

MOROCCO WIN 3-2 ON PENALTIES
AFTER EXTRA TIME: 1-1

- **This is the third time in four World Cups** that the Netherlands have lost in tie-breakers to crash out. Incidentally, **they had lost to Brazil in the 1998** semifinals as well in the shootout.
- **In 2014, they lost to Argentina in the semifinals** in the breaker 4-2, with goalie **Sergio Romero** saving the kicks of Ron Vlaar and Wesley Sneijder.
- In 2022, the **Dutch fought back from 0-2 down to make 2-2** against Argentina in the quarterfinals in regulation time. But **misses by Virgil van Dijk and Steve Berghuis** led to their ouster.

A GOAL, A PRAYER AND A STANDING OVATION FOR GAKPO AMID GRIEF

AP

Gakpo (11) was in tears after scoring

Guadalupe: After scoring in the 72nd minute, Cody Gakpo immediately sank to his knees.

As his teammates immediately rushed toward him in celebration, the 27-year-old forward covered his face while weeping, later pointing to the sky and appearing to pray. While this marked Gakpo's third goal of the World Cup, this goal in the Round of 32 loss to Morocco on Monday was especially emotional for him. On Saturday, Gakpo and his partner, model Noa van der Bij, announced the death of their unborn child.

Despite the grief, Gakpo was determined to continue on. "I think he dealt with it very well," Netherlands head coach Ronald Koeman had said. "There was never a moment where he said he wanted to leave the squad."

His teammates have been there to support him and his family during this difficult time. "The most important thing is to ask, What do you need?'" Netherlands captain Virgil van Dijk said. "It's awful news, and reminds us that there are much more important things in life."

In the 113th min, Gakpo was substituted off for Justin Kluivert. As he walked off the pitch, the Dutch fans behind the goal rose for a standing ovation — for someone who showed up for his team while dealing with tragedy. AP

Reuters

FIRST STRIKE: Norway lead at the break against Ivory Coast in the Round of 32 in Dallas, thanks to a brilliant curling effort from Antonio Nusa. It was an unstoppable shot into the far corner

When Germany stopped being Germany

Four-Time Champs Suffer First World Cup Shootout Defeat As Paraguay's Penalty Shock In Boston Deepens A Decade Of Drift

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Manuel Neuer has long had the habit of clipping and taking home a piece of the goal net as a personal souvenir after the final of a major tournament.

At Foxborough's Boston Stadium, as the 40-year-old goalkeeper dived the wrong way and watched Jose Canale bury the decisive penalty to seal Germany's ouster by Paraguay, there was a haunting sense of inevitability to it all.

Having been coaxed out of retirement by Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann, Neuer's long stint with the national team — his 23rd World Cup appearance and 128th international cap — finally came to an end in hollow silence.

Germany had their moments of salvation, especially when Neuer saved Fabian Balbuena's shot to keep the penalty shootout at 3-3. But Bayern defender Jonathan Tah — who had never taken a penalty for club or country during a match before — suffered a Roberto Baggio moment, skewing his kick over the bar and leaving Canale and Paraguay to steal the show.

This was Germany's first World Cup defeat in a penalty shootout, having won their previous four, and only their second such failure at a major tournament after the Euro 1976 final half a century ago.

Seldom have Germany looked more un-German than in this act of self-destruction on the game's grandest stage. The crown so dearly won at the Maracana in 2014 has now turned to dust in Boston, a stark expression of the emptiness that has followed. Since conquering Rio de Janeiro, they have failed to make it out of the group stage twice — in 2018 and 2022 — and have now stumbled in the first knockout round.

Grief is ghastly and immovable; at the sharp end, it feels profound and intractable. In Germany's case, it comes with the painful realisation that they are no longer good enough to restore their lost aura of impeccability. That almost feverish ritual of dusting themselves down in times of adversity, that fierce pride in being the eternal "Turniermannschaft', the tournament team, has vanished.

"This is now our third elimination in a row, so we are not part of the first-class teams any more," manager Nagelsmann admitted bluntly after the loss to Paraguay. Kai Havertz echoed the sentiment. "I don't think we played bad football, but something's missing in the team."

Yet the statistics make this new normal look almost absurd. On Monday, Germany had 76% possession, completed 725 passes to Paraguay's 160 and registered 21 shots to their opponents' 7. Un-German? Perhaps yes. And who else but Pep Guardiola to blame? Several stalwarts, including 2014 World Cup winner Bastian Schweinsteiger, have argued that Pep's arrival at Bayern Munich in 2013 triggered a paradigm shift in German football's style. With the national team heavily dependent on Bayern personnel, and the Bundesliga powerhouse's control-based, short-passing game becoming the focal point, Germany lost their almost religious adherence to fighter mentality and the ruthless pursuit of clinical results built on defensive discipline.

Having seemed to usher in a new world order in 2014, Germany had since hoped to radiate a sense of surprise. But their game has never quite mustered the conviction or clarity to make that leap feel realistic. The 7-1 demolition of Curacao in their opener proved a false dawn, and they hardly looked settled into any coherent rhythm. It was almost as if the idea of a new-look Germany had come at a price.

Neuer is now gone. With him, captain Joshua Kimmich (31), Antonio Rüdiger (33), Leon Goretzka (31), Leroy Sane (30) and Pascal Gross (35) could also face an exit if Germany seek out the reset button.

But just what will Germany reset to? As they say, the devil in this context is in the details.

AP

BATTLE OF THE KEEPERS: Germany's Neuer (left) and Paraguay's Gill

2 Guimaraes is two assists away from equalling Pele's record in World Cups. The midfielder reached four. Pele holds the record for most assists in a single edition with six (1970 World Cup).

4 The Brazilian reached the same no. of assists (4) as Michael Ballack, Germany (2002), Francesco Totti, Italy (2006), and Juan Cuadrado, Colombia (2014).

• Casemiro and Danilo enter the Round of 16 at risk of suspension. Another yellow in the pre-quarters & they'll be suspended in the last 8.

Brazil survive like Real Madrid in Ancelotti thriller

Echoes Of Ancelotti's Los Blancos Sides: Clarity In Chaos, Finding Decisive Late Moments

Houston: Carlo Ancelotti has spent weeks warning that grit and resilience would decide a long, complicated World Cup. On this evidence, Brazil have been listening — even if, for much of the match against Japan, they seemed determined to test the theory to destruction.

One could argue this was not simply a 2-1 Brazil victory. It seemed a familiar Ancelotti production: control, wobble, self-inflicted trouble and then, when logic was packing its bags for extra time, a late act of defiance that belonged as much to the heart as to the tactics board.

Ancelotti knows plenty about long, complicated tournaments from his years at Real Madrid. His best Real sides were not always flawless, but they carried something more dangerous than perfection: the certainty that the story was never over.

The similarities were hard to miss.

In 2022, Real roared back past Paris St Germain, Chelsea and Manchester City on their way to winning the Champions League, surviving situations that looked terminal until they suddenly were not.

It was not always tidy, far from that. But it was brutally effective, powered by competitive nerve, clarity in chaos and a refusal to accept the obvious conclusion. Even when it did not make sense.

Brazil, for so long, had that same World Cup aura. Every four years, the tournament seemed to become their property, their stage, their natural habitat. Like Real Madrid in the Champions League, they did not merely play in it. They occupied it.

Reuters

CREATOR-IN-CHIEF: Bruno Guimaraes is the pulse of coach Ancelotti's machine

Against Japan, this team in yellow offered both sides of the Ancelotti bargain.

Brazil dominated from the start and were the better team, but they were also exposed by mistakes that felt predictable. Danilo, a full back with Real Madrid, Man City and Juventus but now a centre back who turns 35 in two weeks, misplaced a simple pass as Brazil tried to build from the back.

Casemiro, another of Ancelotti's trusted old guard, was then unable to match a Japanese runner for speed. For a while, Brazil looked trapped between their past and present: too grand to panic, too flawed to be comfortable.

Yet this is where Ancelotti's teams tend to become most interesting. The Italian has never been obsessed with sterile domination. His greatest sides often live in the margins, where the game becomes emotional, messy and primal. And almost in the final move, with Japan glancing anxiously towards extra time, Brazil found their escape hatch.

Teenager Rayan pressed relentlessly, stole the ball and fed Bruno Guimaraes, the pulse of Ancelotti's machine.

Guimaraes found substitute Gabriel Martinelli drifting through a thicket of Japanese defenders and he delivered the kind of ruthless finish that crushes one team and convinces the other it is chosen.

For Japan, it was devastating. For Brazil, it was something close to restoration. Ancelotti has seen that movie before. Now Brazil are trying to make it theirs. REUTERS

It's now or never for Belgium's Golden Gen

Houston: The last of Belgium's golden generation will take a final shot at World Cup glory after having come through a mixed group stage. In their last-32 clash in Seattle on Wednesday, they come up against a Senegal side which has also had a topsy-turvy campaign.

Jan Vertonghen, Thomas Vermaelen, Eden Hazard and Dries Mertens are no longer part of the Belgium side, but others from the team that finished third at the 2018 World Cup remain. That means there is experience in the squad, led by goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois, midfielder Kevin De Bruyne and striker Romelu Lukaku, but it is now or never if they are going to achieve what many thought possible, to lift the World Cup.

Belgium managed five points in Group G to finish top ahead of Egypt on goal difference, but only came to life in their final game, a 5-1 win over New Zealand.

They will hope to carry that form into the knockout stages, having had the most shots on goal in the pool stages with 73.

It will be a special occasion for Senegal-born midfielder Amadou Onana. "Playing against Senegal would really make me feel special," he said.

Senegal lost their opening two Group I fixtures to France and Norway, but a 5-0 thumping of Iraq meant they advanced as one of the best third-placed teams. "Even though we scored five goals, there are still improvements to be made," coach Pape Thiaw said.

His big decision will be whether to restore experienced defender Kalidou Koulibaly to the starting line-up after high-profile errors in the first two group games caused him to be dropped. Thiaw knows he will need Koulibaly's experience, but whether he can still trust the 35-year-old is the question. REUTERS

Round of 32
BELGIUM VS SENEGAL
1:30 am (Thu) Live on Zee5 and Unite8 Sports

Hosts US face tricky Bosnian challenge

Irvine: A confident United States team eyeing a deep World Cup run face a Bosnia and Herzegovina side looking to spoil the co-hosts' party in a last-32 clash in Santa Clara on Wednesday.

Round of 32
USA VS BOSNIA
5:30 am (Thu) Live on Zee5 and Unite8 Sports

The US won their opening two group-stage matches to secure early qualification for the knockout rounds and will look to rebound from a last-gasp defeat by Turkey in a dead rubber in Los Angeles last week when they head north to the Bay Area. The Americans are heavy favourites, but captain Tim Ream said they would not take Bosnia lightly after the Balkan nation beat Italy in qualifying to deny the four-times champions a place at the tournament and finished third in a group behind Switzerland and Canada.

"They're a difficult team to play against, and they're in the tournament for a reason," Ream told reporters on Monday.

"They went through a little bit of a conflict to get there and they're just a really tough team. At the end of the day, the game is going to be about us and what we're prepared to do and what need to do to advance." REUTERS

ENGLAND AIM TO BE SPOT ON

COACH TUCHEL PREPARES TEAM FOR SHOOTOUT FOR CONGO CLASH

John Cross

Kansas City: Noni Madueka insists England will be ready for the drama of a World Cup penalty shootout. Thomas Tuchel has run regular practice sessions through the whole England squad as they prepare for the knockout stages. England face DR Congo in Atlanta on Wednesday in their first knockout game with shootouts looming large as England's games have been tight. Three Lions boss Tuchel has warned the players they may face two shootouts if they want to go all the way to the final in New Jersey on July 19. But Madueke, who suffered the heartbreak of a shootout defeat with Arsenal in the Champions League final, says they will be well prepared.

Madueke said: "As you go into the knockouts, penalties become more prominent. I'd volunteer, for sure. I am always open to take a penalty. At the end of the day, it's down to the coach's decision."

Madueke insists that he has taken the winning feeling of Arsenal's title success into the World Cup and is now ready for the biggest stage as the pressure steps up.

The Arsenal winger added, "That winning feeling lingers. It's great to take that into a tournament as big as the World Cup." Incredibly, England have 11 regular penalty-takers within their squad even if they are not necessarily first choice for their clubs. Ivan Toney, Harry Kane and Anthony Gordon have outstanding records while Marcus Rashford, Bukayo Saka, Reece James, Elliot Anderson and Jude Bellingham have all taken them.

Tuchel has based his assertion on two shootouts on history and stats but also because he fears, with the climate and conditions, games will be close. That has led him to put players on red alert and totting up the number of penalty-takers. DAILY MIRROR

AFP
England captain Harry Kane scores from a retaken penalty kick against Croatia in the group stage. England have packed their lineup with their regular penalty-takers

Round of 32
ENGLAND VS DR CONGO
9:30 pm (Wed) Live on Zee5 and Unite8 Sports

7 England have been knocked out on penalties seven times at major tournaments (World Cup and European Championship combined). They have won three shootouts and lost seven overall.

Meet Congo fan 'Lumumba', a statue cast in flesh & blood

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"I am a standing statue," Michel Kuka Mboladinga told an international news outlet while waiting for his visa status to the US ahead of DR Congo's crucial last group-stage match in Atlanta.

The visa was not granted because of US restrictions due to the Ebola outbreak in the central African country. And it meant that DR Congo – making only their second World Cup appearance after competing as the erstwhile Zaire in 1974 – did not have their most famous fan, Mboladinga in the guise of "Lumumba Vea", in the stands when they booked a place in the knockouts for the first time.

But the iconic Lumumba Vea — "Lumumba lives" — and with his steely gaze, raised right arm and motionless stance throughout a football match continued to live on as DR Congo's unofficial 12th man with another fan taking his place at the stadium.

With his uncanny resemblance to the country's first democratically elected prime minister, Patrice Emery Lumumba, Mboladinga has been playing Lumumba Vea at Congo's matches since 2013. Lumumba was a symbol of Congolese nationalism during its struggle against Belgian rule, which began when King Leopold II established the Congo Free State in 1885, and continues to be remembered over 65 years after his death despite being in power for just three months. Lumumba was killed by a firing squad after a military coup in 1961 at the age of 35. Lumumba Vea, however, shot into fame earlier this year, at the Africa Cup of Nations in Morocco when the football world took note of his statue-like demeanour atop a pedestal during DR Congo's matches. So much so that the national team players petitioned the Congolese President Felix Tshisekedi to include him in the team's official contingent.

Lumumba Vea was present in the stands as Congo played against Colombia in Mexico's Guadalajara, even if the camera cut away when he raised one hand to his mouth and the other placed like a gun to his head, in protest against the western silence on the current civil war raging Lumumba's land.

Whether Mboladinga will be present when Congo take on England in their last-32 match in Atlanta is still draped in speculation.

FROM THE BENCH: IMPACT OF THE SUPER SUB

Brazil winger Gabriel Martinelli's 95th-minute strike against Japan established a legendary archetype: the substitute saviour scoring a late winner. Bringing a predator off the bench to exploit a tiring defence remains the ultimate tactical move in knockout stages of the World Cup. **TOI** takes a look...

Nacer Chadli
(Belgium 3 Japan 2, 2018 WC Round of 16)
Timestamp: **94th min**

The Play: Japan threw bodies forward on a late corner, leaving themselves exposed. Thibaut Courtois claimed the ball and initiated a lightning-fast counter-attack via Kevin De Bruyne and Thomas Meunier, allowing Chadli to tap home the ultimate comeback after Belgium trailed 2-0

Mario Goetze
(Germany 1, Argentina 0; 2014 WC final)
Timestamp: **113th** (Extra Time)

The Play: Brought on in the 88th minute with the instruction to "show the world you are better than Messi", Goetze controlled an Andre Schurrle cross on his chest and volleyed past Sergio Romero to win the World Cup

Francesco Totti
(Italy 1, Australia 0; 2006 WC Round of 16)
Timestamp: **95th**

The Play: Entering as a tactical substitute in the 75th minute, Italy's No. 10 found the pressure building when Lucas Neill conceded a 95th-minute penalty. Totti smashed it into the top corner with the game's final kick.

Ilhan Mansiz
(Turkey 1, Senegal 0 2002 WC Quarterfinal)
Timestamp: **94th** (Extra Time; Golden Goal)

The Play: A sub for legendary striker Hakan Sukur, Mansız etched his name in history by meeting a Umit Davala cross with a sublime half-volley, scoring the last Golden Goal in Cup history.

SNAP SHOTS

Harmanpreet to lead

Harmanpreet Kaur was retained as captain of a largely predictable 15-member India cricket squad for the Asian Games in Japan despite the side's earlier than expected exit from the ICC T20 World Cup in England. Yastika Bhatia has been dropped for the event. **Squad:** Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Smriti Mandhana (vc), Shafali Verma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh (wk), G Kamalini (wk), Bharti Fulmali, Sree Charani, Renuka Thakur, Kranti Gaud, Arun- dhati Reddy, Shreyanka Patil, Radha Yadav, Nandni Sharma.

Hardik moves to B'luru: Hardik Pandya has shifted base to Bengaluru with the aim of making the BCCI's Centre of Excellence (CoE) his permanent training base for the remainder of his career, becoming the first prominent current India cricketer to do so. "Hardik has rented a property close to the CoE," a BCCI source told PTI.

Zimbabwe triumph: Blessing Muzarabani took four wickets for Zimbabwe as they bowled Bangladesh out for 185 to win a one-off Test in Harare by an innings and 85 runs. **Brief scores: Bangladesh 140 & 185 in 45 overs** (M Rahim 34, N Shanto 30; B Muzarabani 4-65, R Ngarava 3-32) lost to **Zimbabwe 410**.

India crush SL: India produced a clinical all-round performance to outclass Sri Lanka by 120 runs in the opening unofficial U-19 women's one-dayer in Puducherry. **Brief scores: India U-19: 279/8 in 50 overs** (Ira Jadhav 83, Nidhi Mahto 54; Chamodhi Herath 3-51) bt **Sri Lanka U-19: 159 all out in 48.5 overs** (Manudi Nanayakkara 47; Janhavi Virkar 2-40, Mahak Narwase 2-12).

Gukesh, Pragg lead Indian challenge: World champion D Gukesh will be up against some of the world's best players in the Zagreb Rapid and Blitz Tournament beginning in Zagreb on Wednesday. The event is part of the Grand Chess Tour.

Mustafa marches into semis: Karnataka's Mohammed Mustafa and defending girls champion Natasha Chethan powered into the semifinals of the Heyball National Championships in Dehradun on Tuesday. **Results (Quarters): Boys:** Md Mustafa (Kar) bt Aagam Gangwal (MP) 5-2; Aatif Ansari (MP) bt Hira (Pun) 5-2; Aarav Sancheti (Mah) bt Karan Sheshadri (Kar) 5-3; Arnav Sharma (HP) bt S Mohd Moin (Guj), shootout; **Girls:** Natasha Chethan (Kar) bt Leisha Reddy (Tel) 4-0; Aleina Khanna (Del) bt Harleen Kaur (Pun) 3-0; Gianna Rego (Mah) bt Usha Jyothi (AP) 4-2; Padmakshee C (TN) bt Angel Kamboj (Har) 4-1.

B'lore Athletic FA prevail: Bangalore Athletic FA edged past Pass FC 1-0 in the KSFA 'D' Division League in Bengaluru on Tuesday. **Results:** B'lore Athletic 1 (Minlen 37) bt Pass FC 0; Einheit SF 6 (Stanley G 8, 16, 27, Varun R 30, 35, 39) bt BPSS 1 (Rishab S 41); Shooterz 4 (Savio P 10, Gouthama N 20, Mohan P K 27, Bharath K 28) bt Blues 0; Elite Soccer 4 (Anappa YR 2, 14, Mahesh BB 5, 10) bt All Star 2 (Sanjai 9, Nriane 20); Mazaz 3 (Faique 7, Shaun Olog 23, Ajay 34) bt Kraken 0; Mercurial 7 (Santosh Singh 10, Mithil J J 14, Kshiraj Nair 26, Vishnu Singh 28, Ram Pathak 35-p, Mohan Bahadur B 47, Ashish N 50) bt VPS 0; Zenit 3 (C Khawbung 6, Jangmin Haokip 7, K Khongsai 13) bt Power Play 0.

Sooryavanshi's debut remains in focus

Chester-le-Street (UK): Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's eagerly awaited debut and the thoroughly exposed batting frailties on challenging wickets dominate the discourse on India as they take on England in a five-match T20I series starting here on Wednesday.

India's assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate said that Sooryavanshi will have to "go through the process and bide his time" like any other cricketer to get a place in the eleven.

PREVIEW

At the same time, he had no hesitation in declaring that the 15-year-old swashbuckler seems ready for the grind.

But it remains to be seen whether the management will hold firm on its resolve that Sooryavanshi must follow the process amid the growing clamour to blood the explosive hitter. The failure of Sanju Samson against Ireland offers them a perfect excuse to bench the opener and pair Sooryavanshi with Abhishek Sharma, who could be saved by that 20-ball 49 in the first T20I. It could end up being the move that gives the visitors a strong start against England in the five-match series.

Ishan Kishan also did not cover himself in glory during the two-match series against Ireland and was dismissed for 1, 12. So, the management can bench either of those two to accommodate Sooryavanshi.

If one takes the case of Samson, he had a wonderful run towards the back end of the T20 World Cup and also scored two centuries for Chennai Super Kings in the IPL. However, the think tank led by chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar and head coach Gautam Gambhir is not averse to taking some harsh calls. They also handed debuts to Suryansh Shedge and Prince Yadav against Ireland, leaving Sooryavanshi waiting for his national cap. PTI

Yodhas pull off one-run thriller

Times News Network

Hubballi: Shivamogga Yodhas pulled off a one-run thriller against Gulbarga Mystics on another rain-interrupted day of the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 tournament here on Tuesday.

With a rain interruption resulting in a revised target of 128 in 12 overs, Mystics skipper Manish Pandey nearly pulled off a heist. He slammed a 13-ball 36, including 23 runs in the final over, but they fell woefully short, finishing with 126/7. Put in to bat, after a shaky start, Yodhas rode on Sujay Sateri's unbeaten 30-ball 47 (7x4; 1x6) to post 180/7. Opener Lunith Sisodia (31) and Tushar Singh (35) made useful contributions, while Yashovardhan Parantap added a 19-ball 25. For Mystics, Dhruv Prabhakar, who returned 2/16, was the best bowler.

MAHARAJA TROPHY

The Mystics kept losing wickets at regular intervals and eventually found themselves in a difficult situation, needing 39 runs from 12 balls and 26 from six. Besides Pandey, Macneil Noronha was the next highest scorer with 34 runs.

In the second match of the day, Ritesh Bhatkal (66) starred for Mysore Warriors, who claimed a two-wicket win over Coastal Kings Mangaluru. Ritesh's innings comprised of eight fours and three sixes.

Brief scores: Shivamogga Yodhas: 180/7 in 20 overs (Lunith Sisodia 31, Tushar Singh 35, Sujay Sateri 47 n.o, Yashovardhan Parantap 25; Dhruv Prabhakar 2-16) bt **Gulbarga Mystics 126/7 in 12 overs** (Macneil Noronha 34, Manish Pandey 36 n.o; Yashovardhan 2-34, Ambareesh K 2-33).

Coastal Kings Mangaluru: 161/9 in 19 overs (Karun Nair 48, Sidharth Akhil 28; Vyshak Vijaykumar 2-35, Lavish Kaushal 3-32) lost to **Mysore Warriors: 167/8 in 18.5 overs** (Chethana LR 37, Ritesh Bhatkal 66; Shreyas Gopal 4-37, Nischith Pai 2-18)

Swiatek survives Townsend storm

TIMES OF INDIA AT WIMBLEDON
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AP
NERVY START: Iga Swiatek in action against Taylor Townsend

After a little over two hours on court, and having teetered on the brink, Iga Swiatek ended her nervy Wimbledon opener with an ace. The Pole then sank into her courtside seat, buried her face in her hands and sobbed, the relief of survival washing over the defending champion.

It had been a gloomy start to Tuesday. Early drizzle and cold winds eventually gave way to bright afternoon sunshine. After last week's heatwave, the cooler conditions offered welcome respite. On Centre Court, though, where Swiatek kicked off her title defence against the tricky American Taylor Townsend, she ran into rough weather.

Swiatek exploded out of the blocks. After saving five break points in her opening service game, her tennis turned as crisp as the blue sky above; she wrapped up the first set in just 31 minutes.

Townsend, though, had no intention of fading away. The world No. 79 in singles, dressed in lace and frills, with a large white bow in her hair — a look that appeared to echo the style of her friend Naomi Osaka, watching from the players' box — began to weave in subtler touches. The 30-year-old carved out a double-break lead and, after the defending champion's 10th error of the set, stretched the advantage to 4-0. Swiatek briefly steadied herself on serve, but the left-hander did not relinquish her grip.

Swiatek survived a near 20-minute opening game in the deciding set, saving four break points before holding serve. She then held her nerve to close out a 6-1, 2-6, 6-3 victory.

The third seed's father, Tomasz, and sister, Agata, seated in the front row of the Royal Box, cheered her on. "I'm not sure if I'm able to talk that much. It has been a tough couple of weeks, not a season where everything went how I wanted. I don't think I won any three-set matches this year, so I'm happy I could do it here," the six-time major winner said. "In the end, I kept my composure."

Swiatek had barely gathered herself enough to applaud Townsend as Centre Court rose to give the American a standing ovation. But she did not waste an opportunity to live up to her hard-earned reputation as Wimbledon's "towel thief", stuffing the match towels into her bag.

The Pole, who has become known for taking as many tournament towels as possible to donate to charity and give to friends and family, admitted she did not get to keep any for herself last year. "Last year's tactics didn't help that much because I ended up not having any of the towels because everybody took them away from me!" she rued. "Even though it went viral last year, I'm not afraid to do it again. I need to go for even more."

Swiatek will face Czech Karolina Pliskova in the second round. Meanwhile, last year's runner-up Amanda Anisimova advanced with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over North Macedonian qualifier Lina Gjorcheska, whileJasmine Paolini fought back from a set down to beat Robin Montgomery 0-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Despite the defeat, Gjorcheska made history as the first player from North Macedonia to compete in the singles draw of a Grand Slam.

Efficacy fancied for main event

Mysuru: Sulaiman Attaollahi's Efficacy—ridden by Shreyas Singh—has the best chance in the Stewards Trophy, to be run over a distance of 1400 metres at the races here on Wednesday. Rise Again (Antony Raj up) is next best. First race starts at 2pm.

1. The Republican Plate (Div. II) 1200M: Trump Baby 1, Pette's Choice 2. **2. The Kodlipet Plate 1400M:** Natural One 1, Iron King 2. **3. The Republican Plate (Div. I) 1200M:** I Like Too Hoo Haa 1, Hasting Sunrise 2. **4. The Renowned Plate (Div. II) 1200M:** Ladylion 1, Sapphire 2. **5. The Stewards Trophy 1400M:** Efficacy 1, Rise Again 2. **6. The Hiriyur Plate 1600M:** Star Of Light 1, Sada 2. **7. The Renowned Plate(Div. I) 1200M:** Silver Quest 1, Magical Bay 2.
Day's best: Silver Quest. **Jackpot:** 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7. **Mini Jackpot:** 4, 5, 6 & 7. **First Treble:** 2, 3 & 4. **Second Treble:** 5, 6 & 7. TNN

City Cricketers (2) win big

Times News Network

Bengaluru: Propelled by Priyanshu Gaharwar's all-round show, City Cricketers (2) registered a comfortable 283-run win over Merchants Cricket Club in the KSCA U-19 inter-club tournament.

Opting to bat, City Cricketers piled 373/9 in 50 overs with opener Niranjan Gupta (53), Dignath U (74), and Y Diivyan (54) scoring half centuries. Desperate for wickets, Merchants used nine bowlers but could not bowl out the opposition.

Diivyan dealt the opening blow, sending back Merchants' openers Gnan Swaroop and Rakshith Iyer early. After a brief period of resistance from Vishruth S (23) and Sudarshan (33). They didn't recover there after, losing six wickets for the addition of 23 runs.

Brief scores: City Cricketers (2): 373/9 in 50 overs (Niranjan Gupta 53, Diganth U 74, Mohnish Sriramaneni 26, Y Diivyan 54 n.o., Priyanshu Gaharwar 35; Yashwanth Nayaka R 2-26, Gnan Swaroop S 2-47) bt **Merchants CC(1): 90 all out in 26.3 overs** (Sudarshan 33; Y Diivyan 2-15, Niranjan Gupta 2-20, Priyanshu Gaharwar 5-11).

Jawahar SC(1): 236 all out in 38 overs (Abhinav Jha 123 (96b, 15x4, 5x6); Harshit Mishra 3-46, Prithvi Karajgi 3-45) bt **Modern CC: 235/6 in 38 overs** (Arsh 47, Ivan Malhotra 68, Dhruv AS 30; Vakula Chandra 36; Tharun Kumar 2-38). (Match delayed due to wet outfield)

Cambridge CC: 197/0 in 29 overs (Aditya Gundalli 61 n.o., Arnav Anil 122 n.o. (87b, 9x4, 7x6)) bt **Mathikere CC: 196/7 in 39 overs** (Mahith Bandi 73, Rafa Ballachanda 35, Pragalbha SS 27; Davin Mascarenhas 2-44, Mihran Rehman 2-33) **Young Cricketers (1): 189/6 in 26.3 overs** (Micheal 26, Abhinav Kulkarni 77, Chinmai R 30; Yeshwanth N 2-30, Suhaan Bhandary 3-69) bt **Jayanagar Cricketers: 188 all out in 42.5 overs** (Vidyasagar P 101 (122b, 13x4); Punith Kumar 2-42, Tejas S 2-55, Yashas HR 4-22).

Pavitra powers SUCC (1)

Times News Network

Bengaluru: Swastic Union Cricket Club (1) rode on Pavitra's six-wicket haul to register a 164-run victory against Malleswaram Gymkhana in the KSCA U-15 women's T-30 tournament here recently.

Batting first, Swastic's top order fired in unison to amass 229/3 in 25 overs. In reply, Malleswaram's chase crumbled against a fine bowling display, with Pavitra returning 6 for 15. Backed by Bhreethy Raj (3/9), Swastika bundled out the opposition for a paltry 65 runs in 14.4 overs.

Brief scores: Swastic Union CC(1): 229/3 in 25 overs (Kirti Ashtaputre 64, Aaradhya Mallik 60 n.o., Raksha Muthu 57; Nandini U 2-37) bt **Malleswaram Gymkhana: 65 all out in 14.4 overs** (Pavitra 6-15, Bhreethy Raj 3-9). **Whirlwind Cricketers: 175/8 in 30 overs** (Sanvi Gowda 87 n.o; Annika P 4-23, Pearl Muthamma 2-37) bt **Visweswarapuram CC(2): 147 all out in 26.5 overs** (Mahira Rehan 49, Pearl 40; Shreya V 3-20, Sangeetha NR 2-23). **Minerva CC: 188/2 in 24 overs** (Garima Khabri 99, Reem Ali 26; Sahana Sar 2-34) bt **Coles Cricket Club: 140/6 in 24 overs** (Shanaya Kulkarni 102 n.o (85b, 14x4; Namratha B 2-19, Samriddhi Singh 2-15). **Bangalore SC: 163/7 in 30 overs** (Kushi Suryakanth 112 n.o (90b, 14x4; Sarayu SS 2-26) lost to **Rajajinagar Cricketers: 164/4 in 28.1 overs** (Thanishka DR 42, Saanvi Mehru 34; Shwetha 2-24). **Mount Joy CC: 70 all out in 20.3 overs** (Vedika Nair 4-18, Samanvi Reddy 2-24) lost to **City Gymkhana: 71/3 in 15 overs** (Yashika S 26; Pavani HS 2-21). **Jayanagar United Cricketers: 150/7 in 26 overs** (Jyothi Kumari 45, Jahnavi Krishna 36 n.o.; Adwitha RN 3-25) bt **RVCE Gymkhana: 88/6 in 15.3 overs** (Vishakha Kalappanavar 2-8, Amrutha Siri 2-11). **Sapphire CC: 158/3 in 24 overs** (Manushree Kurtakoti 41 n.o., Jaishnavi MS 26) bt **Bangalore Occasionals: 80/8 in 24 overs** (Sanika SN 3-8, Kotagasthi Husnara 2-15). **Vultures CC: 263/4 in 23 overs** (S Deeksha 62, Vianna D'Souza 58, Vaidehi Kamath 30) bt **Vijaya CC, Malur: 92/2 in 18 overs** (Thanishka Srinivas 41 n.o; Shiwani 2-21). (Match interrupted by rain).

AUS ENTER FINAL

Australia moved a step closer to a record-extending seventh Women's T20 World Cup title after beating West Indies by eight wickets in the first semifinal at The Oval on Tuesday. Chasing 126 for victory, Australia made a flying start as Beth Mooney and Georgia Voll put on 29 runs from just 18 balls before Voll fell in the second over. Phoebe Litchfield departed soon after, leaving Australia briefly under pressure at 43/2. However, Mooney anchored the chase with an unbeaten 61, combining with Ashleigh Gardner in an unbroken partnership, taking them over the line with ease. Gardner contributed an unbeaten 35 after also claiming two wickets.

Brief scores: West Indies: 125/7 in 20 overs (Hayley Matthews 30, Deandra Dottin 26 n.o; Sophie Molineux 2-30, Ashleigh Gardner 2-13, Georgia Wareham 2-17) lost to **Australia: 127/2 in 13 overs** (Beth Mooney 61, Ashleigh Gardner 35 n.o). AGENCIES

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INCLUDES 6 PAGES OF BANGALORE TIMES

Harmanpreet Kaur retained as captain of a largely predictable 15-member India squad for this year's Asian Games in Japan despite the side's early exit from T20 WC

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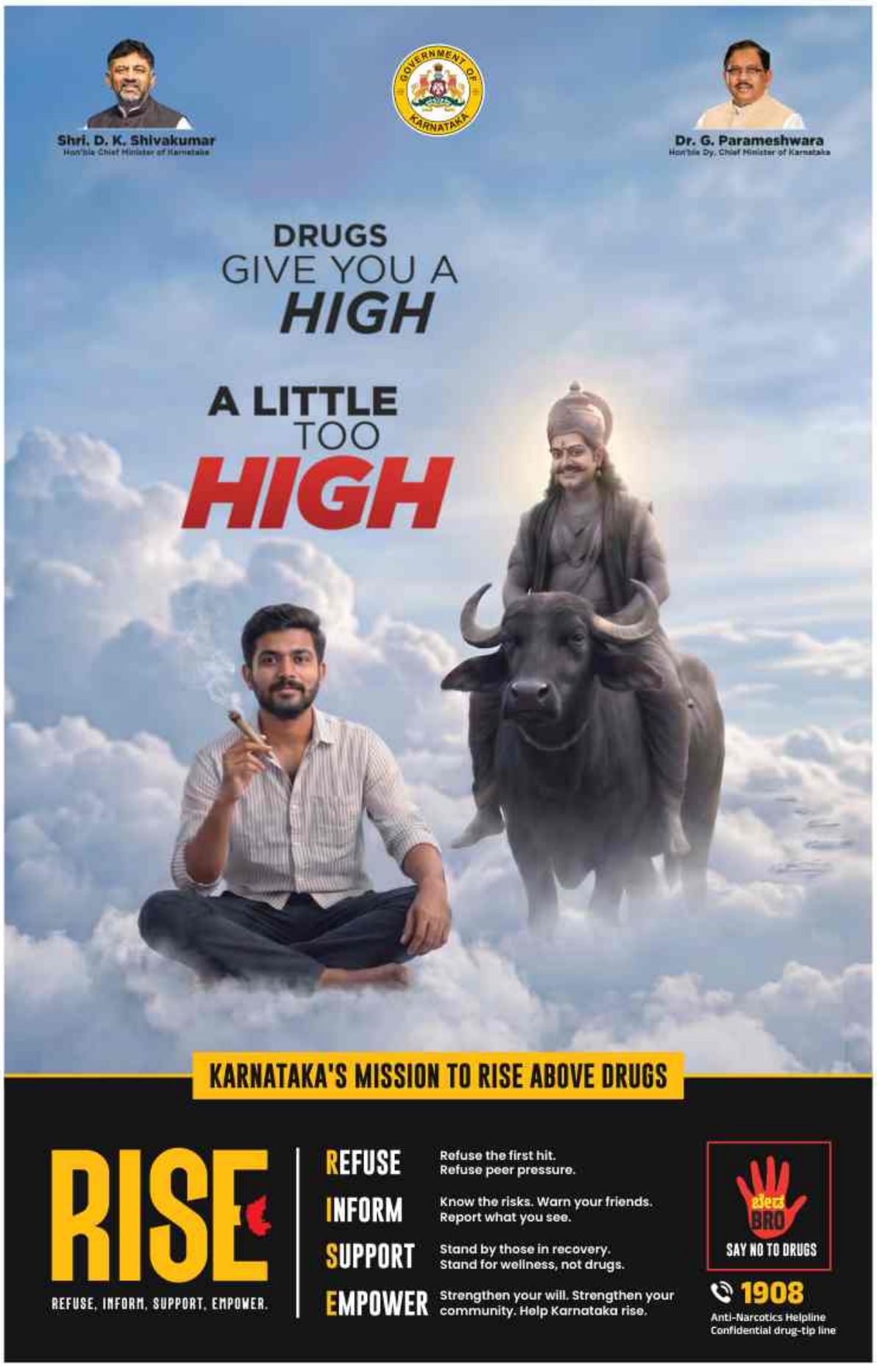
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THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUDES BANGALORE TIMES

Below-normal monsoon likely in July too, says IMD

But Rains In Next 7-10 Days May Reduce Deficit

Vishwa.Mohan
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New Delhi: The current rainfall deficit of 40% across the country may reduce due to good rains in the next 7-10 days as monsoon advances further into the country, but overall rainfall is likely to be 'below normal' in most parts of the country in July, IMD said in its latest forecast Tuesday.

Monsoon is expected to cover Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and some places in Rajasthan during the next 2-3 days.

July is also likely to be warmer than usual as the Met department has predicted "above normal" temperatures at several places.

IMD said formation of a low-pressure system over Bay of Bengal is likely to aid rainfall in the first 10 days of July, with showers covering most parts of central India, from Odisha and Bengal to Gujarat and Maharashtra.

"Conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into remaining parts of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh, some more parts of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, UP, entire Daman & Diu, J&K, most parts of Haryana-Chandigarh-Delhi and Punjab, and some parts of Rajasthan during the next 2-3 days," IMD director general Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said.

He said the likely wet spell during the next 7-10 days may help sowing operations, particularly in the 'monsoon core zone' — the country's rainfed area, mainly in central India, where farming largely depends on the seasonal rainfall. July is normally the wettest month of the season and the most crucial period for sowing of kharif crops.

JUNE DEFICIT 40%

- July rainfall across India likely to be **anywhere below 94%** of long period average, says IMD's forecast
- At 40% deficit, last month was India's **3rd driest June in a century and 5th driest since 1901**
- Monsoon likely to advance further into north India, including Delhi, over next few days. **Good rains in central India over next 7-10** days may aid sowing of kharif crops

▶5th-lowest June rain, P 12

Assam, Arunachal reel under flood fury

Over 90,000 people have been affected by relentless monsoon rains that have triggered floods and landslides across Arunachal Pradesh, claiming four lives. In neighbouring Assam, the situation worsened over the past 24 hours, with its first flood-related death Tuesday and nearly 47,000 residents affected. TNN

Current storage in KRS dam enough to meet drinking water needs of B'luru, Mys and Mandya for 2 months

R Uday Kumar | TNN

Mandya: Officials estimate that the current storage in the Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) reservoir is sufficient to meet drinking water needs of Mysuru, Mandya, and Bengaluru for only about two months.

In view of the weak monsoon and poor inflows, the Karnataka govt has directed officials to reserve the existing storage in the reservoir exclusively for drinking water requirements of the three regions. The decision has triggered concern among farmers, particularly sugarcane growers, who fear significant crop losses if irrigation water is not released soon.

Madhusudhan SR

As of Tuesday morning, water level at the KRS dam stood at 80.86ft against its full reservoir capacity of 124.80ft. The reservoir was receiving an inflow of 604 cusecs, while the outflow stood at 987 cusecs

The Mandya district administration now faces the challenge of balancing the need to safeguard drinking water supplies with protecting the livelihoods of lakhs of farmers who depend on KRS dam for irrigation purposes.

With the current storage providing a buffer of only about two months, releasing water for irrigation at this stage could reduce that reserve to one month, leaving the administration in a precarious situation if the monsoon continues to remain below normal.

▶Only for drinking, P 4

Govt: Onus on msg platforms if feature vulnerable to fraud

The Centre has said cybersecurity is now among its "highest priority" areas, even as officials cautioned that no digital system can be declared permanently secure. Govt also indicated that messaging platforms would be held responsible if new features created room for fraud. Asked about security concerns over WhatsApp's proposed username feature, an official said, "It is WhatsApp that has to worry, not us." P 9

Boy falls into 220-ft borewell, trapped

A four-year-old boy fell into a 220-ft-deep open borewell in Haryana's Ambala district Tuesday, triggering a large-scale rescue operation, including Army. Nirvair Singh, slipped into the abandoned borewell when he had gone to the fields with his father to deliver food to his grandfather. TNN

WORLD CUP ROUND OF 32

UNDERDOGS TOPPLE OLD GUARD

Call it the diaspora dividend. Traditional European powerhouses Germany and Netherlands were knocked out of FIFA World Cup on penalties, losing to Paraguay and Morocco respectively. In the emerging football landscape, traditional underdogs possess both the tactical discipline and belief to eliminate fabled giants, thanks to their players being honed in Europe's top academies and leading clubs

Paraguay goal-scorer Enciso

- Four-time champs Germany missed 3 penalty kicks vs Paraguay to lose the shootout 4-3 after a 1-1 draw. It was **Germany's first-ever defeat in a World Cup penalty shootout.** Paraguay frustrated Germany with a **compact defensive structure, limiting clear-cut chances** before holding their nerve from the spot
- Hours later, Morocco pulled off a **dramatic 3-2 penalty shootout victory over the Netherlands** following a 1-1 draw. Morocco, ranked a rung higher than the Dutch at No. 6, enjoyed 70% possession

FULL COVERAGE P 23,24

Morocco's Rahimi & Diop

Erling Haaland scores a late winner as Norway set up a last-16 showdown with Brazil at World Cup, taming Ivory Coast 2-1

32 yrs on, 3 cops held guilty of framing agitators

Agra: A special CBI court in Muzaffarnagar Tuesday convicted three UP police personnel for criminal conspiracy and providing false evidence to implicate protesters of the Uttarakhand statehood movement under Arms Act in the 1994 Rampur Tiraha case. The convicts were sentenced to one-and-a-half years in jail along with a fine of Rs 5,000 each.

The court ruled that prosecution had proved that the accused entered into a criminal conspiracy to "frame innocent persons". TNN

▶ Against justice, P 19

TOI HEALTH

Obsession with flawless skin now has a name: Cosmeticorexia

What's pulse pressure and how does it affect the brain?

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TURN TO P 12

NICE Road, Electronics City flyover toll hiked from today

Suchith.Kidiyoor
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Commuters using the 45-km NICE Road stretch between Tumakuru Road and Hosur Road here will have to pay a higher toll from Wednesday, following a revision in user charges on the access-controlled corridor.

Toll for cars travelling from Hosur Road to Bannerghatta Road has been raised from Rs 65 to Rs 72. Between Mysuru Road and Magadi Road, the toll has gone up from Rs 70 to Rs 77.

Toll across individual sections have gone up by Rs 3 to Rs 8 for cars, depending upon the distance travelled.

With toll raised for buses as well, BMTC is expected to pass on the additional cost to passengers through higher fares on routes using this road.

NICE Road remains one of the costliest tolled corridors in the city, a high-speed link connecting the western outskirts of the city with the IT hub at Electronics City on Hosur Road.

COSTLIER COMMUTE

FOUR-WHEELERS
- To pay ₹3-₹8 more per section of **NICE Road,** depending upon distance
- Hosur Road-B'ghatta Road toll rises from ₹65 to ₹72

TWO-WHEELERS
- Toll for the same stretch raised from ₹30 to ₹33; and from ₹15 to ₹17 for B'ghatta Road to Kanakpura Road

BUSES & TRUCKS
- Hosur Rd-B'ghatta Rd toll for buses up from ₹195 to ₹215. For trucks, up from ₹128 to ₹141

SINGLE TRIPS SPARED
- On **Electronics City** flyover, single-trip toll unchanged for cars
- For multiple trips, toll raised from ₹95 to ₹100

▶Attibele toll revised, P 2

'Gruha Jyothi' verification begins today

Bengaluru: If you are a beneficiary of the state govt's Gruha Jyothi scheme, expect a knock on your door from July 1.

In a statewide exercise aimed at weeding out ineligible beneficiaries, the state energy department will launch a door-to-door verification drive across the jurisdictions of all five electricity supply companies in Karnataka.

Consumers have been asked to keep ready their Aadhaar card, a passport-size photograph, voter ID card, ration card, caste certificate, PAN number if beneficiaries are tax payers, professional details and tenancy or rental agreement, wherever applicable. TNN

Cyber threats now tailored for demographic groups

Abhay@timesofindia.com

Behind the glowing screens of everyday devices lies a rapidly evolving digital battlefield, where age, gender and innocence are increasingly being weaponised by cybercriminals. From financially draining senior citizens to exploiting women through intimate data and targeting children online, different demographic groups are facing uniquely tailored cyber threats.

According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data for 2024, senior citizens remain prime targets for digital financial fraud and manipulation.

In Delhi alone, 198 senior citizens aged 60 and above fell victim to cheating and fraudulent schemes under various legal provisions. In 2023, as many as 205 such cases were registered. Cyber experts say elderly individuals are disproportionately vulnerable to online scams due to a combination of psychological and behavioural factors.

"Many senior citizens did not grow up with digital technology, leaving them less familiar with online security protocols, phishing red flags and multi-factor authentication...," said a police officer.

▶Weaponise tools, P 14

Six fishermen rescued off M'luru in 2-hr op

Mangaluru: Indian Coast Guard (ICG) rescued six fishermen from a stricken boat in a two-hour search and rescue operation off the coast of Mangaluru on Monday evening.

The Udupi-registered vessel, 'Manju Matha', sent out a distress call around 4pm, reporting it was facing severe flooding and suffered hull damage in the rough sea. Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Sachet', responded to the SOS and located the 2019-built ship off Surathkal coast.

ICG conducted its operation in extreme weather & deployed remote-operated lifebuoys to reach and bring the fishermen to the shores without any incident. TNN

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